

CARLTON - MARCH 13, 2014 - 6:00 P.M.

INFORMATION AND SCOPING MEETING FOR THE
MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
AND
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

In the Matter of the Application of North Dakota
Pipeline Company, LLC for a Pipeline
Routing Permit for the Sandpiper Pipeline Project

MPUC DOCKET NO. PL-6668/PPL-13-474

Carlton County Transportation Department
1630 County Road 61
Carlton, Minnesota

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1 MS. TRACY SMETANA: Good evening and
2 thank you, everyone, for coming.

3 My name is Tracy Smetana, I'm with the
4 Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. And we are
5 here for the public information meeting for the
6 proposed Sandpiper Pipeline route.

7 I've included on this opening slide the
8 Commission's docket number for the route permit for
9 this project. That's sort of the key to finding
10 information with our office so I thought it would be
11 useful to have that right upfront.

12 So this is briefly what we're going to
13 run through this evening. I'll do a little
14 introduction here, talk about the pipeline route
15 permit roles and process. We'll ask the company to
16 provide a brief summary of their proposal. The
17 Department of Commerce will talk about the
18 environmental analysis part of the project. And
19 then we'll open it up for the main event, which is
20 your comments and questions.

21 Due to the number of folks here, we
22 definitely want to make sure that everyone who wants
23 to speak has an opportunity to do that and so we'll
24 ask you to limit your comments to three to five
25 minutes. I will be the timekeeper. You can keep an

1 eye on me, I'll give you the one-minute warning and
2 then the alarm on my phone will go off when we hit
3 five minutes, okay, just to be respectful to all
4 those behind you in line who would like to speak.
5 Thank you.

6 So, first off, I'd like to just start
7 with a brief introduction of who is the Public
8 Utilities Commission anyway? Some of you folks I
9 know I've spoken with, I recognize a lot of you from
10 other events, but I'm guessing that some of you have
11 not heard of the Public Utilities Commission before
12 or haven't had the opportunity to work with us in
13 the past.

14 So we regulate permitting for power
15 plants, pipelines, and transmission lines. We also
16 deal with local and in-state long-distance telephone
17 companies, as well as service and rates for
18 investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities.

19 We have five Commissioners, they are
20 appointed by the governor. They serve staggered
21 terms. So we don't get a whole new batch every time
22 we get a new governor, we have some that were
23 appointed by Governor Dayton, and some that were
24 appointed by governors prior.

25 We also have about 50 staff that work at

1 the Commission doing technical things, legal things,
2 consumer area, public information, and so on.

3 I'd also like to talk a little bit about
4 who's who in this process. If you continue
5 following the project, there are a number of folks
6 that you may interact with or you may hear about or
7 read things about, so I'd like to let you know who
8 is who.

9 First off we have the applicant. That's
10 the term that we use to describe the company asking
11 for the certificate of need and the pipeline route
12 permit. So in this case the applicant is the North
13 Dakota Pipeline Company. So if you hear someone use
14 the term applicant, that's who they're talking
15 about.

16 The next one is the Department of
17 Commerce. And they play two different roles in this
18 process. The first is the Energy Environmental
19 Review and Analysis, which you might see abbreviated
20 as EERA. They are, again, another state agency
21 independent of the Public Utilities Commission and
22 they are responsible for conducting the
23 environmental analysis for this project.

24 The other arm of the Department of
25 Commerce that will participate on the certificate of

1 need side is the Department of Commerce Energy
2 Regulation and Planning group. Their job is to
3 represent the public interests when utilities ask to
4 make changes that are regulated by the Public
5 Utilities Commission.

6 We also ask the Office of Administrative
7 Hearings to get involved. They are another state
8 agency, again, separate from the Commission and from
9 the Department of Commerce. They will assign an
10 administrative law judge, which you might see
11 abbreviated as ALJ, to this case. The judge is
12 going to hold hearings, both public hearings up in
13 this area again, also evidentiary hearings, a little
14 bit more formal process where people will provide
15 sworn testimony, cross-examine witnesses and so on.
16 And after all of that, the judge will take all of
17 the information in the record from the start to that
18 point and summarize those facts and make
19 recommendations in the form of a report to the
20 Public Utilities Commission. And, again, it's the
21 Commission that ultimately is responsible for making
22 the decision.

23 Now, at the Public Utilities Commission
24 there's a couple different staff members that you
25 might be involved with through the process. The

1 first is me. My name, again, is Tracy, I'm the
2 public advisor. And my job is to help you figure
3 out this process. When you can plug in, where you
4 can plug in, where to get information, how to send
5 in comments, that type of thing. I'm neutral, I'm
6 not for the project, I'm not against the project,
7 I'm not for you, I'm not against you. My job is to
8 provide information about the process.

9 My counterpart at the Commission is an
10 energy facility planner, that would be Mr. Scott Ek,
11 he is here this evening. And his job is to help in
12 building the record on more of the technical aspects
13 and inform Commissioners on impacts of various
14 decision alternatives and so on. And, again, he's
15 also neutral, he's not for or against the project or
16 any party or anyone else as part of this project.

17 So why is the Commission involved in this
18 particular project? Well, because the statutes and
19 rules call this a large energy facility. And so a
20 large energy facility needs a certificate of need
21 from the Commission before it can be built. And so
22 that's going to answer the question, is the project
23 needed.

24 The other piece of that puzzle is, if
25 it's needed, where is it going to go. And so that's

1 the piece that we're here to talk about tonight.
2 That's the pipeline route permit. And, again, the
3 statutes and rules prescribe when that applies to a
4 project like this. And I've included for both of
5 these pieces the statutes and rules in case you're
6 looking for some bedtime reading tonight.

7 Now, when the Public Utilities Commission
8 decides on the route, the statutes and rules provide
9 them some guidance on things they need to consider
10 in making that decision. And so some of these are
11 things that we are relying on you for some help to
12 determine which of these factors exist in the area
13 that's being proposed. Which things do you want
14 considered, which things are most important. So
15 human settlement, the natural environment,
16 archaeological and historic resources, the economy,
17 pipeline costs and accessibility, use of existing
18 rights-of-way where that makes sense, cumulative
19 effects of future pipeline construction. And we
20 also want to make sure the project complies with
21 other regulations, whether they be local, state,
22 federal and so on.

23 What the statutes and rules don't do with
24 this list is prioritize them. So we ask for citizen
25 help, we ask other state agencies for help in

1 helping us prioritize that information. And
2 ultimately it's up to the Commission to decide, you
3 know, which ones are most important in various
4 areas.

5 So if you like pictures here's a chart of
6 what the process looks like. Kind of a high level
7 overview, we didn't want to include every little
8 detail of every little thing that happens. So these
9 are kind of the high points.

10 So you can see this is the certificate of
11 need process. And I put this one up first because
12 that's the question that has to be answered first,
13 is the project needed, okay. And so step one
14 actually happens before this chart, where the
15 company actually applies for the certificate of
16 need. That's what triggers the whole process.
17 Okay.

18 Once they do that, then the Commission
19 reviews the application to say, hey, did they send
20 everything that we need? Did they check off
21 everything on the list to call it an application?
22 When they do, then we say the application is
23 accepted. And so I know that that terminology can
24 be confusing for people. They say, oh, it's
25 accepted, it's already done, what are we doing here?

1 That's not true at all, it just means it's accepted
2 for further review. So that means we can move on
3 down this chart, okay.

4 And you can see, as I mentioned earlier,
5 there will be public and evidentiary hearings that
6 the ALJ, that administrative law judge, will
7 oversee, and there will be further information about
8 that schedule as it comes out.

9 Now, this is a similar picture for the
10 pipeline route permit process. And it looks kind of
11 similar, a lot of the same steps. A couple added
12 features on this one. This is where we are today,
13 these public information meetings, okay. And so we
14 have three purposes at the meeting today. Number
15 one, to provide information about the process and
16 the project. Number two, we want to gather
17 information about alternative routes or route
18 segments that folks may wish to propose. And we
19 also want to gather information about environmental
20 concerns that people may have so that that can go
21 into the environmental analysis. Okay.

22 From there, the Commission will determine
23 which routes move forward for further analysis. And
24 then we'll move into the public hearings. And at
25 that point the public hearings -- that's where the

1 two processes sort of merge back together, where
2 when we get to those public hearings we'll be
3 talking both about the need and about the route
4 together, as opposed to right now we're pretty much
5 just talking about the route today.

6 Now, this is an estimated project
7 timeline. So the key word here is estimated, okay,
8 just based on what the statute and rule requirements
9 are and our past experience with these types of
10 projects.

11 On Monday there will be a scheduling
12 conference with the administrative law judge to go
13 over and kind of firm up some of these dates a
14 little bit. So after that time then we'll know more
15 about what these dates actually look like. But you
16 can see we're early on in the process, we're at the
17 public information meetings in March.

18 And as we work through that, you can see
19 we're expecting the public and evidentiary hearings
20 to be in October. Don't plan your vacation around
21 that, it may or may not be true. We'll have to wait
22 until that scheduling order comes out from the
23 judge. And, you know, based on this schedule we're
24 anticipating decisions on the certificate of need
25 and the route permit in January 2015. Again, that

1 may or may not be accurate, but that's our best
2 guess today.

3 Now, I mentioned there's a few different
4 ways that folks can participate. One is to attend
5 meetings like you're doing tonight. But for folks
6 that maybe couldn't attend tonight, they might want
7 to submit written comments. And we will have other
8 opportunities down the road for folks to attend
9 meetings and to submit comments. And when we
10 publish a notice about a public meeting or about a
11 comment period where we're looking for your help on
12 something, these are the elements that you'll want
13 to look for.

14 So now you can see on here, this is an
15 old one from November, right, so these topics have
16 already been addressed. But I just wanted to put up
17 a sample so you can see what are the key elements,
18 what should I look for if I get one of these notices
19 or see it on our website.

20 So, first off, here we go again with
21 those docket numbers, okay. And there's two
22 different ones. As I mentioned, there's a
23 certificate of need and then there's a route permit.
24 And so when you're communicating with us or looking
25 for information, those are the key pieces that you

1 want to use to track that information down.

2 You also want to pay attention to the
3 comment period. There's always going to be a
4 deadline, because we're not going to just keep
5 everything open-ended because we need to move on to
6 that next box on that chart, right. So we need to
7 get these questions answered and these issues
8 resolved and then move on to the next step. So just
9 like a class in school, if your deadline, your
10 project is due today and you turn it in next week,
11 you're probably not going to get credit for it. So
12 the same follows here. You want to pay attention to
13 those deadlines to make sure that your comments are
14 considered as part of the process.

15 And then the third key point that I want
16 to mention is the topics open for comment. As we
17 move through the process there are different things
18 that we're concerned about, different questions
19 we're asking at different points in time. And so
20 it's most helpful for us if your comments that you
21 send in or that you speak about focus on whatever
22 the topics are that we're interested in today. So
23 you can see back in November and December we were
24 interested in does the application include all the
25 right information. Today we're concerned about

1 different things, as I mentioned earlier, the
2 environmental impacts and alternative routes.

3 Speaking of alternative routes. This is
4 some information about what information you need to
5 include if you're going to submit an alternative.
6 Larry Hartman from Commerce is going to speak more
7 specifically about these requirements.

8 Now, if you're looking to stay informed
9 about the project, there are a number of ways that
10 you can do that. I know that many of you already
11 subscribe or have found other ways to stay informed.
12 If you haven't already subscribed or if you're not
13 already receiving information and you want to know,
14 hey, what's happened in this project so far, or if
15 you thought you missed something, you can go look in
16 what we call our eDocket system.

17 Everything that happens, every piece of
18 information that's submitted into this record is
19 included in this eDocket system. And so you just go
20 to the search function and you search by docket
21 number, it will bring up the list of everything
22 that's in there.

23 Now, if you want to just learn about when
24 are there some opportunities for me to weigh in,
25 when are there comments periods, when is the public

1 hearing, that type of thing, we have a project
2 mailing list that you can sign up for, either U.S.
3 mail or e-mail, to receive information about sort of
4 those milestone events.

5 If you want to receive an e-mail
6 notification any time something new happens, and I
7 know some of you in the room do this, you can
8 subscribe to receive e-mail notification through the
9 subscription service.

10 Now, for some folks, if you're not a big
11 e-mail fan, this might not be for you. In some
12 situations you will get a lot more e-mail than you
13 would like to receive, perhaps, and if that is true
14 you can always unsubscribe and then contact me to
15 get switched over to the project mailing list
16 instead. But, again, you'll note that here the key
17 to doing that is those docket numbers again.

18 And this is just a picture of what that
19 subscription page looks like on the website. I know
20 folks sometimes say, hmm, it was kind of confusing
21 or it wasn't very user-friendly, so I thought having
22 a picture of what it looks like and what information
23 you need to enter might be helpful.

24 And, again, at the PUC there are two
25 different folks that are your project contacts for

1 this particular project. Again, I'm Tracy, I'm the
2 public advisor. Feel free to contact me by e-mail
3 or phone. If I'm not in the office, as would be the
4 case this week, I do have counterparts back at the
5 home office to help you out with any questions that
6 you might have. And then, of course, Mr. Ek, I've
7 included his contact information here as well.

8 And with that I will turn it over to the
9 applicant.

10 MR. BARRY SIMONSON: Good evening,
11 everyone. My name is Barry Simonson, I'm the
12 manager of engineering and construction for our main
13 line side for Enbridge out of Superior.

14 It seems like we have a packed house
15 tonight, we're in our seventh hearing, I think this
16 is the most we've had, and so I hope we have some
17 very productive question-and-answer sessions this
18 evening.

19 To my right, I'd like to introduce the
20 panel that we have from Enbridge. We've got Kevin
21 Walli, legal counsel. Mr. Mark Curwin, who is our
22 director of execution for major projects. Mr. John
23 McKay, land services. Paul Meneghini, environment.
24 Art Haskins, emergency response. And John Pechin,
25 operations manager.

1 So the Sandpiper Pipeline project, what
2 does it consist of? Sandpiper is a pipeline project
3 that begins in the western portion of North Dakota,
4 Tioga, North Dakota, in the Bakken region,
5 obviously, this is all Bakken light crude oil. And
6 it's approximately 616 miles. In North Dakota
7 there's about 300 miles of 24-inch, and then once
8 the pipeline gets into the Minnesota region there's
9 about 75 miles of 24-inch that goes into Clearbrook.
10 And then from Clearbrook to Superior the diameter
11 changes to 30-inch pipeline. And that's about 300
12 miles in the state of Minnesota.

13 In terms of construction. We're looking,
14 once we go through the environmental permitting and
15 all the regulatory permitting, we're looking for
16 construction in the winter of 2014, '15, but
17 predominantly construction in 2015 with an
18 in-service date of Q1 of 2016.

19 A couple other highlights. One of the
20 main things, objectives, that we try to do in
21 routing is we try to follow existing Enbridge-owned
22 utilities and/or other utilities such as electrical
23 power lines and other gas lines, et cetera. So on
24 this project right now and specifically for the
25 state of Minnesota, we're around 75 percent

1 collocated with what I just mentioned. But I'll get
2 into more detail on Carlton County in just a few
3 minutes.

4 This is a map of the state of Minnesota.
5 As you can see, in the top left corner is the border
6 of North Dakota and Minnesota. And there's an
7 existing line 81 that Sandpiper parallels that's a
8 line that starts in western North Dakota and goes to
9 Clearbrook. From Clearbrook there will be a new
10 terminal. And from that new terminal the 30-inch
11 pipeline, diameter pipeline will be following
12 existing MinnCan pipeline, pipelines, plural, I
13 should say, there's two or three, headed south from
14 around Park Rapids. And then from Park Rapids the
15 pipeline will traverse in an easterly fashion
16 following an existing Minnesota Power DC line.

17 You can't see them here, I guess they're
18 not blown up too much. But in terms of Carlton
19 County itself, and when I speak about routing, our
20 initial route that we filed with the PUC had some
21 landowners concerned, citizens concerned, and we did
22 meet with a lot of public outreach in terms of
23 meeting with various counties within the whole
24 route. And in terms of Carlton County, the county
25 commissioners had mentioned that there were issues

1 with our route, there were landowners that were
2 concerned. So what we did was we asked the county
3 to propose a few different routes that we could look
4 at. And they did and we found a route that, not
5 only from a socioeconomic perspective, but from an
6 environmental perspective was amicable to all
7 parties involved.

8 And when I mention that, when I say that,
9 in the county of Carlton right now, we're about 95
10 percent collocated with existing utilities, which is
11 positive. And in addition to that, the supplemental
12 filing that we had on January 31st does indicate
13 that that is our preferred route going forward, just
14 so everyone is aware of that.

15 Project benefits. What are the benefits
16 of this project? This is North American crude oil
17 out of the Bakken region. And in terms of that, by
18 building this pipeline we're offsetting imports from
19 other countries that may be unstable or unfriendly
20 to U.S. interests.

21 In terms of jobs, there's going to be
22 many jobs that are created by the construction
23 crews, the contractors that are building it. And
24 with that, local jobs come with that. Local unions,
25 there will be jobs, there will be gas, there's

1 accommodations, there's restaurants. So there will
2 be a big impact to the economy in the local regions.

3 In terms of taxes, tax base. In 2011
4 Enbridge paid around \$34 million in Minnesota
5 property taxes. And with Sandpiper coming on line
6 in 2016, we're looking at an additional \$25 million
7 in tax revenue. So that's a big deal.

8 What are our priorities? Safety,
9 integrity, and respect. And when we talk about
10 safety, we want to operate our systems reliably.
11 And that goes with how we design the pipeline and
12 our facilities, how we construct, and how we
13 operate. No incident will ever be acceptable to us.

14 We continually invest in new
15 technologies. And in doing so, in training to
16 protect our employees, residents, and natural
17 resources alike. And, finally, with landowners, we
18 strive for fair and equitable treatment for all
19 landowners along our rights-of-way.

20 Again, thank you for attending and we
21 look forward to a productive Q and A session with
22 everyone tonight.

23 Thank you. I'll turn it over to
24 Mr. Hartman.

25 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Thank you. I

1 would -- can you hear me back there? Sometimes my
2 voice falls off. If I can get some assistance from
3 somebody in the back row, when you cannot hear me,
4 please raise your hand and I'll try to readjust
5 accordingly.

6 My name is Larry Hartman, I work for the
7 Minnesota Department of Commerce on the Energy
8 Environmental Review and Analysis staff. With me
9 from our staff is Casey Nelson, who is outside
10 helping folks if they want maps. And there's some
11 other introductions I'd like to make a little bit
12 later on at the appropriate time.

13 As Tracy mentioned, this is the last of
14 our seven scheduled information meetings in the
15 first go-around on this project. We've covered a
16 number of different topics as we've gone across the
17 state on these meetings. Excuse me, there's one
18 thing I did forget already.

19 We are making an oral recording of --
20 well, we've made oral recordings of all the meetings
21 so far. We have a court reporter here. Her name is
22 Janet. And Janet is rather user-friendly. If you
23 don't pronounce your name clearly and correctly she
24 will certainly make that known that she needs that
25 information. So when I call on you to speak later

1 on, please approach the front, sit down, and speak
2 into the microphone and spell your name for the
3 court reporter.

4 When the oral record is available, we'll
5 be posting those on eDockets and our website. The
6 oral record will be indexed, so if there's certain
7 subject areas you want to follow you can track that
8 by the index for the various meetings we've held
9 across the eight counties crossed by the proposed
10 pipeline to date.

11 Janet is also human, so in about an hour
12 and a half we're going to take a 10- to 15-minute
13 break to let her fingers recoup from what is being
14 said by all parties. And, with that, I guess I'll
15 continue. Are you okay, Janet?

16 COURT REPORTER: I am. So far.

17 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Okay. Again, Tracy
18 has briefly given you a brief overview of the
19 pipeline permitting process.

20 Pipelines were not regulated by the State
21 of Minnesota prior to 1986, I believe. And the
22 state assumed a greater role in the pipeline
23 jurisdiction after the Moundsview incident. And out
24 of that came a number of things related to pipeline
25 safety. One is a more active Office of Pipeline

1 Safety. Out of that also came the Gopher State One
2 Call system and also came the rules and regulations
3 for how high-pressure pipelines are permitted in
4 Minnesota.

5 During the rulemaking process, a lot of
6 you may be familiar with environmental review, and
7 we've had a lot of requests so far for what's called
8 an environmental impact statement. Pipelines are
9 reviewed a little bit differently. There's not a
10 formal EIS.

11 The Minnesota environmental review rules,
12 which are Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4410.3600,
13 provide for an alternative review process if certain
14 obligations are met. When the rules were adopted
15 they were then authorized by the Minnesota
16 Environmental Quality Board. First, the reviser's
17 office, then the Minnesota Environmental Quality
18 Board, and then a month later the Board approved
19 them as an alternative form of review as they
20 satisfied the requirements to enable that to occur.

21 So an alternative environmental review
22 differs from conventional environmental reviews in
23 several different ways. One, there's not a draft
24 EIS, there's not a final EIS, we prepare what's
25 called a comparative environmental analysis. That

1 analysis will examine the various routing options
2 proposed either by Enbridge or by route proposals
3 received by us by April 4th of this year.

4 The environmental analysis will also
5 address comments received at all the public
6 information meetings in greater detail also. We'll
7 also be working with our other state agencies
8 regarding their permitting concerns also.

9 The environmental review document will be
10 prepared, or we'll start preparation of that after
11 the Commission authorizes the routes to be carried
12 forward for the public hearing. What will happen
13 after the conclusion of the deadline for either
14 route proposals and/or written comments into this
15 record, which is April 4th, we'll then prepare, I
16 guess, our package for the Commission, and then
17 their staff would review that and make their
18 recommendations to the Commission.

19 Once the Commission determines what
20 routes would be approved, that is the limit or the
21 universe of routes that will be examined at the
22 public hearings to be held later this year. And
23 public hearings will not be held until the
24 comparative environmental analysis is available.

25 Again, some of you may have different

1 interests, some of you may just have an interest as
2 to how the route crosses your property. Some people
3 might have an interest on where the entire route is
4 located. A number of concerns have been expressed
5 so far.

6 You can participate in a number of
7 different ways. If you, as a landowner, are
8 concerned about the route on your property, you
9 think there's a better place for it, I would
10 encourage you to work with your neighbors, because
11 where it's at on your property might affect where
12 it's at on their property also. So, again, I'd
13 encourage you to work together as groups if you so
14 choose.

15 Some groups and organizations have
16 different interests also. So you can participate at
17 different levels and kind of different degrees of
18 participation should one choose to do so.

19 Besides route proposals, as I mentioned,
20 there's an opportunity to submit written comments.
21 We accept those comments by e-mail, by fax. We have
22 comment sheets out front. Some people have already
23 turned them in. Those comment sheets, if you
24 haven't picked one up, you might want to before you
25 leave tonight, you can send me your written

1 comments, fold it pursuant to the directions on the
2 back, put a piece of tape on it, it's postage
3 prepaid, and it has my address on it so it'll come
4 to my desk.

5 Now, again, if you want to submit a
6 route, you have to do that by April 4th of this
7 year. And we'd encourage you to submit it on a map,
8 aerial photo, plat book, something that's usable,
9 that shows us fairly detailed information if
10 possible. As an illustrative example, this is for a
11 transmission line, an electric transmission line in
12 the southwest portion of the Twin Cities. What
13 appears to me to be purple was what was proposed by
14 the applicant. Alternative routes were proposed, I
15 don't know by who, but, for example, the Commission
16 authorized those routes to be considered at the
17 public hearings. The same sort of analogy for
18 pipelines also, just as an example.

19 If you can submit that on a map, that
20 would be very helpful. We have a guidance document
21 out at the front table which tells you how to kind
22 of prepare a route recommendation if you want to.
23 The criteria are on the back of that document also.
24 If you go through that and you have questions, you
25 don't understand what's in there, please give me a

1 call or Casey Nelson a call. I've got business
2 cards out there on the table. My cell phone number
3 is on the card also, so if you can't contact me
4 during the day, please feel free to contact me in
5 the evening if you have questions also.

6 Again, try to use criteria to frame your
7 argument for what you think is best for a route
8 alignment. Again, try to work with your neighbors.
9 I won't go through this slide. It just basically
10 provides some rationale to use to support your
11 argument in favor of what you might be proposing.
12 That's also listed in the PowerPoint package that we
13 have out there also.

14 If there's specific issues or impacts
15 you'd like to see addressed, that's one of the
16 things you might comment on also. I've received
17 numerous e-mails from this area, from the Carlton
18 County Land Stewardship, and I've received a number
19 of comments from residents in all the counties
20 crossed by the proposed alignment so far.

21 This is just an illustrative example,
22 it's not inclusive nor is it intended to be
23 inclusive. For example, agriculture. Some of the
24 impacts might be methods of soil separation, drain
25 tile repair, soil compaction, organic farmlands,

1 irrigation systems, crop losses. Perhaps proposed
2 land use plans, residential, industrial, natural
3 resource features, rural water systems, which are
4 common in the western part of the state and
5 southwestern. Roads, water resources, streams,
6 river crossings, wetlands. Forestry clearing of
7 vegetation has been raised. Stand trees, wildlife,
8 cultural resources, archaeological resources.

9 Again, once the routes come in we have
10 time to prepare our information for the Commission
11 so the Commission would then determine what routes
12 go forward for hearing and also the issues to be
13 evaluated in the comparative analysis.

14 The comparative analysis will be a
15 written document that evaluates the various routes
16 being proposed and the impacts associated with the
17 project, as well as mitigation requirements -- or
18 mitigation recommendations.

19 As Tracy mentioned, the hearings will be
20 presided over by an administrative law judge, and
21 that's another opportunity for you to present
22 evidence or information into the record that the ALJ
23 will prepare for Commission consideration.

24 Other state agencies also have
25 jurisdiction in the permitting process. We

1 sometimes refer to those as downstream permits.
2 This is just a listing of some of the agencies.
3 Obviously, the PUC. We at staff over at the
4 Department of Commerce perform a separate role, more
5 in terms of just analysis. Other agencies have
6 permitting authority.

7 Minnesota Department of Natural
8 Resources, they issue permits for crossing of public
9 lands and waters and also appropriation permits for
10 water withdrawal for hydrostatic testing of
11 pipelines. And Jamie Schrenzel is here from DNR.
12 Jamie is right here in the front row.

13 The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
14 also issues permits, be it stormwater runoff
15 permits, NEDS permits, water discharge permits, and
16 there might be a couple others that I'm overlooking.

17 The Minnesota Department of Health, their
18 rules prohibit wells from being within 100 feet of a
19 pipeline. Minnesota -- excuse me, I was going to
20 say Minnesota Department of Health.

21 The Minnesota Department of
22 Transportation issues permits for road crossings,
23 that's state highways. Counties, townships also
24 issue permits for what their responsibilities are
25 with roads also.

1 The Minnesota Department of Agriculture
2 also plays a role. The rules or statutes for
3 pipelines and transmission lines require preparation
4 of an agricultural mitigation plan, or what's
5 referred to as an agriculture protection plan also.
6 Bob Patton is here, and Bob's with the Department of
7 Agriculture. He's helping people sign in. He'll be
8 here later on to answer questions once the forum is
9 open. Part of the agriculture protection plan also
10 addresses organic farms.

11 The last agency I'd like to mention is
12 the Department of Public Safety and the Office of
13 Pipeline Safety. They are responsible for
14 inspection of pipelines, both interstate and
15 intrastate, natural gas as well as liquid lines. I
16 can distinguish those later on if there are
17 questions about that. But they have an ongoing role
18 regarding responsibility.

19 By law the Commission is precluded from
20 addressing safety-related issues. That falls under
21 the domain of pipeline safety. Now, sometimes those
22 issues you find yourself sitting on the fence, is it
23 environmental or is it safety. And we try to
24 address those in the appropriate fashion.

25 So these are some of the agencies our

1 office will be working with in the preparation of
2 the environmental analysis.

3 Again, our website, which is different
4 from eDockets. We post primarily documents we
5 produce. We've also posted Enbridge's site permit
6 application to our website. If you haven't been
7 there, I'd encourage you to go there. The
8 application is broken down by each section for the
9 main portion of the application, the environmental
10 report, and the aerial photos, USGS maps are there,
11 and they're listed by county, by township, and by
12 milepost along with file size. So we tried to make
13 it easy to use and for the public to download and
14 access those maps also.

15 And if you want to send me information or
16 route proposals or comments, you can do that by U.S.
17 mail, e-mail, and on our website you can file
18 comments electronically also.

19 Once we package up everything we get,
20 that will be posted on eDockets also when we present
21 it to the Commission or send it to the Commission.

22 My name, address, telephone number are
23 there if you desire to contact me or Casey. Please
24 feel free to do so, we're there to assist you in any
25 way we can.

1 Now, again, what I'd like to do is open
2 it up to questions. I have 27 speaker cards so far.
3 For those of you that want to speak, we'd ask that
4 you fill out a card. If you don't have one, I'll
5 have one of our staff members walk through and pass
6 out cards. I have 27, so that comes to 135 minutes
7 by my math. If you have three to five minutes that
8 puts us on a fairly tight schedule.

9 Again, state your name clearly for the
10 court reporter when you come up. I will call the
11 names in the order I received the cards, and one
12 person has indicated that they would like to speak
13 early on and that's Mark Herwig. So I will call
14 Mark and after Mark the next speaker would be Dan
15 Reed.

16 MR. MARK HERWIG: Oh, sit here?

17 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: If that one doesn't
18 work, you can have this one.

19 MR. MARK HERWIG: Okay. Thank you for --
20 is this on? Mark Herwig, M-A-R-K, H-E-R-W-I-G.

21 Well, thanks for being here. I
22 appreciate the process.

23 I own 44 acres of land on the proposed
24 route, six miles west of Mahtowa on County Road 4.
25 I live in White Bear Lake, Minnesota, two hours

1 south.

2 I've worked as a volunteer in wildlife
3 conservation since '13 and as a conservation
4 freelance writer since 1981, a full-time
5 conservation employee since 1997. The last 15 years
6 as editor of a national conservation magazine.

7 It has been a dream of mine all my life
8 to own some land and manage it for wildlife and
9 hunting. After raising a family, building a house,
10 and paying for it all, that dream came true October
11 2012. Since then, on that land I have planted food
12 plots, oak and fruit trees, enrolled in Minnesota's
13 Sustainable Forestry Initiative and the Federal
14 Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program to create
15 habitat for grouse and deer, which I like to hunt
16 and eat. But the NRCS got me interested in the
17 golden-winged warbler, a bird that may be listed on
18 their Endangered Species Act and it is present on my
19 property. And, in fact, most of the -- something
20 like half the population is in this area.

21 Then, eight months later, on June 10th,
22 2013, Enbridge called, wanting to survey my land for
23 an as-yet unapproved oil pipeline. Then I got
24 repeated calls from Eric Bates in January to get me
25 to sign an option for an easement for an unapproved

1 pipeline.

2 And, you know, the first guy I talked to
3 was a pretty cool guy. The second guy was kind of
4 pushy, had an attitude, and I didn't appreciate it.
5 They want to run a pipeline over my land, I think he
6 should be a little more polite. And I really felt
7 bullied into thinking that I had to allow a survey
8 on my land, which I didn't. It hasn't even been
9 approved yet. What's the rush?

10 Nearly all my neighbors in the area
11 purchased land for hunting, camping, relaxation.
12 Hunting and tourism are an important part of this
13 economy up here. The whole state of Minnesota, for
14 that matter.

15 And already Enbridge is proposing other
16 pipelines to carry tar sand oil from their country
17 in Canada through this area. And I've been told by
18 someone else several more, perhaps seven or eight
19 more.

20 Why destroy my dream and that of others,
21 including folks who make their livelihood from the
22 land as farmers when other routes exist? For
23 example, the Soo Line route or the route --
24 Enbridge's oil route that already goes to the north
25 of us.

1 Please require this foreign company that
2 does not really care about our citizens to build
3 their pipeline somewhere else.

4 And I just wanted to say, we need fuel.
5 I need fuel, I drove up here in a fossil-fuel-driven
6 vehicle. This route, however, seems to be in
7 Enbridge's best interest. But you need, the PUC
8 needs to decide, needs to determine if it's the best
9 interest of the state people and its treasured
10 natural resources and area residents and landowners.

11 I only have 44 acres. I won't have any
12 left or any value to it if seven or eight pipelines
13 are built on it.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Dan Reed was next,
16 and then, following Dan, Betsy Dugan.

17 MR. DANIEL REED: My name is Daniel Reed,
18 R-E-E-D.

19 My name is Daniel Reed and I'm on the
20 Automba Township Board here in western Carlton
21 County. I've been on many of the area boards over
22 the years and now I'm a reporter covering the
23 Carlton County Board for the Moose Lake
24 Star-Gazette. I am currently the chair of the House
25 District 11A DFL and I'm also on the DFL Eighth

1 Congressional Central Committee.

2 Our area stands at the crossroads of many
3 changes in our economic and social future. The
4 wealth of oil from the Dakotas will pass through our
5 neighborhood in numerous lines as that energy
6 production increases. Vast deposits of copper and
7 other minerals lie under our particular township and
8 wait for the copper-nickel issue of mining and
9 processing and safeguards to our environment to be
10 resolved. I will not speak on those issues because
11 they seem out of our hands.

12 I do wish to comment on the route chosen
13 by Enbridge across our county, starting in northern
14 Automba Township and heading east. We will live
15 with this route as a township for scores of years,
16 with probably major placement of numerous lines.
17 Site selection matters. Safety of operation
18 matters. That's why I continue to talk about the
19 use of the old Soo Line rail grade as the best
20 corridor to take for these numerous lines of oil and
21 gas. Any pipeline location will be located in
22 watershed areas. Yet the Soo Line route, now a
23 recreational trail, has an existing large corridor
24 already. The corridor has been compromised
25 environmentally already from the scores of years the

1 trains hauled their cargos, mostly unregulated.

2 Our infrastructure will have less damage
3 to it with heavy loads during construction since the
4 rail bed is already an existing heavy cargo roadbed.
5 This is a good, cost-effective choice not only for
6 construction, but also for continuing maintenance in
7 the future. It may be a little farther, but it will
8 ease construction costs and not force more lines
9 into our more populated northeastern part of the
10 county.

11 The route to the Soo Line rail bed
12 historically follows a steady downhill slope to the
13 Superior Enbridge terminal. No additional pump or
14 lift stations are needed from that point on.
15 Gravity will do the job.

16 My most important point is my last one.
17 Once the pipeline is completed and all the current
18 safety precautions are put in place, we along the
19 route will live with any potential problems. We
20 will have to have emergency plans and a response
21 team to minimize any spills or any problems that
22 occur. That is a big concern for us. But more
23 importantly, observations by the residents of the
24 area are critical. The Soo Line Recreational Trail,
25 used by thousands of people year-round, would be the

1 safest route, a route checked by 1,000 eyes.

2 The current route travels through areas
3 where locals do not travel even during hunting
4 season. Numerous wetlands. This daily inspection
5 as people recreate along the Soo Line provides just
6 another safeguard for observing a problem and
7 mobilizing a response.

8 Thank you for your attention and please
9 help us choose the best route for our area.

10 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: After Ms. Dugan is
11 done speaking, the next speaker would be Larry
12 Weber.

13 MS. BETSY DUGAN: How do you do? My name
14 is Betsy Dugan and I moved to Wrenshall three years
15 ago. One of the draws to moving here was the
16 opportunity to be part of a community that is
17 growing food sustainably. Much of my food is
18 produced by farmers within five miles of my home.
19 Meat, dairy, vegetables, and fruit.

20 I've been impressed with how Carlton
21 County is growing as a model of sustainable
22 agriculture and is attracting new farmers to live,
23 work, and raise new farmers in this area.

24 As a Minnesota master naturalist, I'm
25 also in awe of the beauty of Minnesota's forests,

1 wetlands, and prairies. They're a treasure for
2 future Minnesotans and a valuable resource in
3 themselves.

4 Although I've been here a short time,
5 I've come to care deeply about Minnesota. I feel
6 that the proposed preferred route is a threat to the
7 source of my food and can irretrievably harm our
8 natural environment.

9 I raise the following points.

10 I see from a revised preferred route
11 followed by Enbridge in January that 75.5 percent of
12 their preferred southern route will be on private
13 land.

14 Number two. This private land would be
15 taken by eminent domain. The landowner would
16 continue to have to pay taxes on that land, but
17 would be prohibited from many uses such as growing
18 an orchard, building infrastructure such as a pole
19 barn and so forth. The landowner would be subject
20 to Enbridge's whim to come on his property with
21 people and equipment any time Enbridge wanted to.

22 Number three. Placing the pipeline in a
23 power line corridor significantly and unalterably
24 changes that corridor. To wit: Pipelines can leak
25 and contaminate the soil and water irretrievably.

1 Also, there is no provision in statute for a buy the
2 farm option. According to Minnesota Statute
3 216E.12, if a landowner on a proposed power line
4 corridor decides he doesn't want to live with such a
5 liability, there is a provision to make the electric
6 utility buy his land at fair market value. No such
7 protection exists for the landowner on a proposed
8 pipeline route.

9 Number four. When the pipeline is,
10 quote, decommissioned by Enbridge, when, not if, the
11 oil will run out, Enbridge has publicly stated in
12 their line 3 segment replacement program brochure of
13 2013 that they will not remove the old pipe and turn
14 the land back to landowner control. Their pipes
15 will remain in the ground. They stated, quote,
16 Landowners will still need to restrict some
17 activities, such as building or digging over the
18 easement whether the line is active or not, unquote.
19 Thus, the landowner will be deprived some uses of
20 his land in perpetuity. This is according to
21 Enbridge's own documents.

22 Number five. Minnesota has a statute
23 policy of nonproliferation as regards utility
24 corridors.

25 Number six. One of the PUC criteria for

1 route selection is effect on natural environment as
2 regards wildlife habitat and water resources.
3 Construction of a whole new corridor would involve
4 destruction, destruction and fragmentation of forest
5 area, wetland disturbance, and soil upheaval.
6 Mitigation does not return the land to natural
7 state. Original soil structure is lost, invasive
8 plants are introduced, and ongoing maintenance means
9 no trees and continued disturbance of the area.
10 This is not conducive to preserving the natural
11 environment.

12 And I haven't even mentioned the likely
13 possibility of oil leaks in the watershed.

14 In summary, Enbridge has proposed an
15 entirely new pipeline corridor in Minnesota with
16 many detriments to land-owning Minnesota citizens.
17 Loss of agricultural land that promises to be vital
18 to our future nutritional needs, and disturbance of
19 pristine natural area.

20 Enbridge already has a pipeline corridor
21 through Minnesota, the northern route. This was
22 their preferred route for all the pipelines they've
23 put in. The land there has already been disturbed
24 with wetlands crossed and forests cut. The northern
25 route would also stand by the Minnesota

1 nonproliferation policy.

2 In light of the above considerations, I
3 think the PUC should consider the northern route the
4 least damaging one for my new home, the great state
5 of Minnesota.

6 MR. LARRY WEBER: My name is Larry Weber,
7 that's W-E-B-E-R. I am a retired teacher of 40
8 years. I am presently a naturalist and an author.

9 30 years ago, we left the city living to
10 move to an old farm in Blackhoof Township of Carlton
11 County. We knew no one here and not much about the
12 region. What we found were pristine forests of oak,
13 maple and basswood, with an abundance of wetlands
14 among the hills of glacial moraine.

15 We decided to stay here and we decided to
16 leave the land just as it is. We cannot improve on
17 Mother Nature. We also met neighbors who felt as we
18 did about the uniqueness and beauty of this land.
19 What we did not find here were many of the invasive
20 plant species that have so permeated the landscape
21 in many parts of the state. Acreage without these
22 alien invaders is quite unusual. This place was a
23 safe haven.

24 I began taking daily walks and keeping
25 track of what else and who else was living here.

1 Over the years, I saw more than 200 species of
2 birds, 65 of which nest here. I also found about 60
3 kinds of mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish and
4 nearly 50 kinds of butterflies. Each April the
5 woodland wildflowers begin blooming. These flora of
6 the forest floor give way to summer flowers of the
7 open spaces and swamps. I have noted more than 200
8 kinds of flowering here throughout the seasons. My
9 walks are never without natural discoveries.

10 Keeping records of what I found led me to
11 write a book about the wildlife at our place. And
12 discoveries of my walks were used in several of my
13 other books.

14 Now, after 30 years, this valuable
15 natural site is being threatened by an invading
16 pipeline from an outside source. The proposed
17 Enbridge Sandpiper Pipeline will do more to the
18 scene than just carry oil through it. Such a
19 project with its wide corridor will disrupt and
20 destroy this undisturbed woods and wetlands. The
21 project would have detrimental effects on the
22 breeding birds, including the threatened
23 golden-winged warbler, and would negatively impact
24 the other fauna and flora. Furthermore, the traffic
25 here would introduce invasive plants that so far

1 have been kept out.

2 And this project is not the end, it is
3 the beginning. Once established, other pipelines
4 would be included in this space and further impact
5 the area.

6 But there is a revised preferred route.
7 Another existing pipeline route is available and
8 should be used. Also, we need to abide by the
9 nonproliferation clause concerning pipeline routes
10 in the county and state.

11 Let's keep the uniqueness of these
12 undeveloped places in Blackhoof Township to remain
13 that way. No new pipelines corridors here.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker card
16 I have is Caroline Johnson. And after Ms. Johnson
17 would be John Dugan.

18 MS. CAROLINE JOHNSON: Good evening. My
19 name is Caroline Johnson, C-A-R-O-L-I-N-E. I'm from
20 Wrenshall, Minnesota in Carlton County where I live
21 today and where I was raised on a large dairy farm.
22 I have two brothers and a son who are still dairy
23 farmers in this beautiful town.

24 My son Adam is a veteran of the last Iraq
25 war and a fourth-generation dairy farmer. In fact,

1 my grandfather, father, and my son are all veterans
2 of foreign wars and are or were dairy farmers in
3 Wrenshall. They fought in wars defending our
4 freedoms and our rights as landowners in this
5 country.

6 What rights or freedom do we have when a
7 billionaire oil company can waltz right in here and
8 unearth our valuable farmland? Doing whatever they
9 please to our property, however they please? This
10 brings down the value of our most precious resource,
11 our land, and hurts the quality of life in our
12 community.

13 When Enbridge came through this area
14 three years ago, they raped our scarce farmland by
15 scraping off the valuable topsoil and never
16 replacing it. If we let another pipeline company
17 come through with this new pipeline, what is going
18 to stop them from doing this again? What is going
19 to stop North Dakota Pipeline Company from carrying
20 new invasive species like leafy spurge into
21 Wrenshall? This invasive species is very toxic to
22 cattle and would be detrimental to a herd of dairy
23 cows. If or when leafy spurge is transported on
24 North Dakota Pipeline's equipment to a farmer's
25 land, it will put the farmer right out of business.

1 Farmers work way too hard for a huge oil
2 company like North Dakota Pipeline Company to strut
3 in and totally disrupt our livelihood, devaluing our
4 most precious resources. If you don't think farming
5 is everybody's bread and butter, ask yourself this:
6 Can you eat or drink crude oil?

7 Thank you for your time.

8 MR. JOHN SANFORD DUGAN: My name is John
9 Sanford Dugan, D-U-G-A-N.

10 I'm a retired university professor. My
11 wife of 43 years and I live in Carlton County and
12 eat locally produced food. The county's woods and
13 wetlands help protect the Lake Superior watershed, a
14 source of water that we drink. They also provide us
15 with recreation.

16 North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC's
17 Sandpiper would open a new conduit to carry oil
18 across the county to the port of Superior, Wisconsin
19 for storage and export. No major refineries serving
20 Minnesota's energy needs are planned. A route
21 modification proposed last fall promises to avoid
22 certain properties, but NDPC declines to remove the
23 original route from consideration.

24 The installation and subsequent perpetual
25 maintenance that Sandpiper would require would

1 irreparably damage farmland that has been carefully
2 nurtured, would clearcut developed forests, and
3 would put wetlands at risk. Degraded farmland
4 cannot be restored to its full potential. An
5 easement swath permanently damages the forest, and
6 wetlands face the threat of catastrophe -- witness
7 the Kalamazoo River disaster.

8 You are no doubt aware that local
9 sourcing of food is a national phenomenon. One
10 indicator of that is the increasing importance of
11 regional food hubs, which manage the distribution of
12 food products between growers and users, like
13 markets, restaurants, and institutions. The
14 Michigan State University Center for Regional Food
15 Systems' 2013 national survey, and I'll quote, Over
16 95 percent of food hubs are experiencing an
17 increasing demand for their products and services,
18 end quote.

19 New food hubs have been recently
20 established in Minnesota. One right in Duluth.
21 There was a time when almost all food for the Twin
22 Ports was produced locally and the trend is now back
23 in that direction. The Duluth city council is on
24 record recently supporting a, quote, vibrant,
25 dynamic and sustainable local food system, end

Now, many pipelines that have been in the ground for decades already cross northern Minnesota. The much publicized discovery of oil and gas reserves in North Dakota and Alberta does not justify a proliferation of new transport pathways across undisturbed land in our state. Routes that have already been negotiated should be the preferred solution. Engineering ingenuity and technological advances can find a way to remove aging conduits and put in ones that will meet alleged needs.

What we have seen in the last eight months is a large corporate entity attempting to force landowners and small businesses to cooperate in a plan of new pipeline proliferation. Most of whose benefits will go to the corporate interests outside the state. Reasonable stewardship of the land requires consideration of long-term issues like how can this land best serve the needs of Minnesotans. Such planning can occur through established representative institutions. Until that happens, the PUC can best meet citizen interests by restricting pipelines to corridors that already exist.

No pipeline proliferation. More cowbell,

1 less pipeline. Thank you.

2 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker card
3 I have is John Fisher-Merritt. And following that
4 will be Tim Anderson.

5 MR. JOHN FISHER-MERRITT: My name is John
6 Fisher-Merritt, J-O-H-N, F-I-S-H-E-R -
7 M-E-R-R-I-T-T.

8 When I started farming in Carlton County
9 in 1976, there wasn't much of a market for
10 locally-owned and grown vegetables and no market for
11 local organically-grown vegetables, so it took a
12 long time to get started making a living at it. But
13 now local produce is very popular and local organic
14 vegetables bring premium prices. Whole Foods Co-op
15 in Duluth sells over \$2 million a year in produce,
16 mostly organic. Community-supported farms are
17 providing organically-grown produce to nearly 1,000
18 families in the area. Many restaurants and even
19 institutions like Essentia Health and UMD are
20 purchasing organic produce. The fact is that demand
21 is increasing along with availability, creating
22 economic opportunity for farmers in Carlton County,
23 where the best soils in northern Minnesota lie.

24 In our area, the proposed southern
25 pipeline route goes through several farms whose

1 soils are primarily Campia silt loam, the best soil
2 type in northern Minnesota. Even in cases where
3 this land isn't farmed organically and isn't
4 currently producing high-value crops, or is even run
5 down through misuse, the potential still remains.
6 Farmers are aging and will eventually be willing to
7 sell to talented beginners who will use the land to
8 its full potential. A pipeline easement would
9 significantly reduce or eliminate their ability to
10 do so.

11 Two of our former interns are among those
12 talented beginners. They have purchased good
13 farmland from aging farmers that lies close to the
14 proposed pipeline corridor. These two young farmers
15 are producing crops whose value approaches \$25,000
16 per acre per year, demonstrating the potential of
17 this good land to provide enterprising, energetic
18 farmers with a livelihood.

19 In spite of Enbridge's claims to the
20 contrary, the 120-foot strip of land disturbed by
21 construction activity, compacted by heavy machinery,
22 with the mixing of soil horizons during installation
23 of the pipe and the resulting destruction of soil
24 biodiversity would make it very difficult, if not
25 impossible, to produce high-value, organically grown

1 crops, especially if the establishment of a new
2 corridor resulted in multiple pipelines. The
3 likelihood of multiple pipelines is great,
4 considering the potential number of oil wells in the
5 Bakken oil fields and burgeoning tar sands
6 production.

7 In a bold move to protect economic
8 development potential in Carlton County, our county
9 commissioners met with Enbridge officials, insisting
10 that the Sandpiper preferred route avoid private
11 land in the organic and sustainable agricultural
12 area of Carlton County as much as possible,
13 following existing utility easements. Enbridge
14 officials followed their recommendations and amended
15 the preferred route to more clearly follow existing
16 power line and pipeline rights-of-way east of
17 Interstate 35. This represents a marked improvement
18 over the original preferred route.

19 But the evidence clearly demonstrates
20 that opening a new pipeline corridor which crosses
21 any prime farmland would adversely affect economic
22 development in Carlton County. I strongly urge the
23 Public Utilities Commission to continue to adhere to
24 their long-standing nonproliferation policy and
25 require the proposed Sandpiper pipeline to follow

1 the already established pipeline corridor, the
2 northern route.

3 I asked earlier if I could ask a
4 question. Is it appropriate to do that right now?

5 Okay. I read in the newspaper that the
6 Sandpiper Pipeline will carry 375,000 barrels of
7 crude oil per day between Clearbrook, Minnesota and
8 Superior, Wisconsin. Is that a correct figure?

9 MR. BARRY SIMONSON: This is Barry
10 Simonson. Yes, that's correct.

11 MR. JOHN FISHER-MERRITT: Okay. Multiply
12 that by 365 and you get 125,875,000 barrels per
13 year.

14 Now, I read in your promotional
15 information that your delivery record is 99.999
16 percent. Is that figure pretty much correct?

17 MR. BARRY SIMONSON: That's correct.

18 MR. JOHN FISHER-MERRITT: Now, when I --
19 correct me if I'm wrong, but when I do the math I
20 find that somewhere along the Sandpiper Pipeline
21 someone could receive an unexpected gift of 1,258.75
22 barrels or nearly 53,000 gallons of hydrofracked
23 Bakken crude oil.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. TIM ANDERSON: My name is Tim

1 Anderson. That's T-I-M and A-N-D-E-R-S-O-N. I'm
2 here as a private citizen and not as a member of the
3 Carlton County Land Stewards.

4 My wife and I own land that is bisected
5 by the North Dakota Pipeline Company's original
6 southern route proposal. I grew up in Minneapolis,
7 but after spending one summer on a canoe trip in the
8 Boundary Waters Canoe Area, the value of land
9 stewardship and preservation was etched as deeply in
10 my soul as the glaciers that carved the granite
11 shield of northern Minnesota.

12 I have a bachelor's degree in biology and
13 a master's in environmental education from the
14 University of Minnesota. I have been a biology
15 teacher at the secondary and postsecondary levels
16 for over 30 years, so I feel qualified to address
17 some of these issues. As you can tell, the Boundary
18 Waters trip was a defining moment in my life.

19 We bought our 40-acre parcel in Carlton
20 County so we could have a sanctuary to preserve from
21 human development, a small piece of our own
22 wilderness where we could enjoy its pleasures and
23 instill in our children the true value of nature
24 that I learned for the first time on that canoe
25 trip. This value is not measured in gallons or

1 barrels of oil, but in immeasurable beauty and
2 environmental benefits like carbon sequestration to
3 help minimize climate change, nutrient cycling,
4 water filtration and erosion control to provide
5 clean drinking water and improve the health of our
6 watersheds, including the Red, Mississippi, and
7 Nemadji Rivers, all of which will be crossed by the
8 proposed pipeline and subjected to the toxic effects
9 of the oil spill. And preservation of wildlife
10 habitat and the earth's critical need for
11 biodiversity, which provides food, medicine, and
12 enjoyment for our welfare.

13 As a point of fact, there are currently
14 31 species in Carlton County recognized as rare,
15 threatened, endangered, or of special concern by the
16 Department of Natural Resources, including the
17 golden-winged warbler, which is also a national
18 species of concern.

19 These environmental benefits are
20 recognized by the State of Minnesota as being vital
21 to our state and are specifically outlined in
22 Minnesota Rules 7852.1900, which was referenced
23 earlier in the presentation. Subparagraph 3, which
24 states, and I quote, In selecting a route for
25 designation and issuance of a pipeline routing

1 permit, the MPUC shall consider the impact of the
2 pipeline on the natural environment and its natural
3 resources, close quote.

4 In addition, Minnesota Statute 116D.01
5 states, and again I quote, The purpose of laws 1973,
6 Chapter 412, are to promote efforts that will
7 prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and
8 biosphere, close quote.

9 And, finally, subdivision 2 of Minnesota
10 Statute 216D.02 states -- and again I'm quoting --
11 It is the continuing responsibility of the state
12 government to discourage ecologically unsound
13 aspects of population, economic and technological
14 growth and develop and implement a policy such that
15 growth occurs in an environmentally acceptable
16 manner; define, designate, and protect
17 environmentally sensitive areas; minimize the
18 environmental impact from energy production and use;
19 and preserve important existing natural habitats of
20 rare and endangered species, close quote.

21 In my estimation, the state would be
22 grossly negligent if it were to grant NDPC
23 permission to damage over 600 miles of undisturbed
24 forest, prairie, and aquatic ecosystems, and
25 hundreds of acres of farmland to construct and

1 operate a pipeline to carry extremely volatile
2 fracked oil from North Dakota to Superior,
3 Wisconsin, where it, according to the Wall Street
4 Journal, is likely destined for foreign ports via
5 Lake Superior, the largest and most pristine of the
6 Great Lakes.

7 The toxic effects of a potential oil
8 spill can clearly be seen in Michigan's Kalamazoo
9 River, which still remains foul years after an NDPC
10 pipeline spilled over a million gallons of oil.

11 For these documented reasons, I implore
12 the MPUC to shoulder its responsibility and deny
13 NDPC's certificate of need or require them to route
14 the proposed Sandpiper Pipeline in their existing
15 northern route right-of-way.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker
18 would be Mary Anderson.

19 And it's around 7:25, so after Mary does
20 her presentation we'll take a short break, then, for
21 the court reporter.

22 MS. MARY ANDERSON: Okay. My name is
23 Mary Anderson, A-N-D-E-R-S-O-N.

24 I am opposed to the North Dakota Pipeline
25 Company's proposed Sandpiper Pipeline. My husband

1 and I own 40 acres along the original southerly
2 route in Carlton County. As such, we are members of
3 the Carlton County Land Stewards, but I'm speaking
4 on my own because we raise dairy goats on our land
5 and are concerned about the impact.

6 Neither of us are originally from this
7 area. 25 years ago, when we were looking for an
8 area to move to, settle on, and raise our children,
9 we knew northern Minnesota was one of the few
10 remaining untouched true wilderness areas in the
11 country. Minnesota was also known for being a
12 progressive state that has legislation in place
13 which promotes efforts that will prevent or
14 eliminate damage to the environment and stimulates
15 the health and welfare of human beings, all of which
16 are core values of ours.

17 We wanted to settle on land that would
18 allow us to be self-sufficient, raise our children
19 to know the value of the land and appreciate the
20 creation that God has given us and teach them the
21 importance and responsibility that each individual
22 has in taking care of our earth and its precious
23 resources.

24 We have worked very hard for years to
25 achieve self-sufficiency and to be good stewards of

1 the land. This is now in jeopardy. The original
2 southerly route would cut our 10-acre woods in half
3 and bisect our 30-acre hayfield at a 45-degree
4 angle. This field supplies the food for our dairy
5 goats.

6 As we near retirement, we had hoped to
7 expand our dairy goat herd. But the destruction of
8 our land by the construction of a pipeline would
9 eliminate a portion of the goats' food source. A
10 pipeline traversing our property would also prevent
11 us from being able to organically certify our goat
12 milk.

13 The potential harmful effects of an oil
14 spill are also a concern. The impact of a spill
15 would be enormous. Enbridge does not have a good
16 track record concerning oil spills. They are
17 responsible for the largest inland oil pipeline
18 spill in U.S. history in Kalamazoo, Michigan, which
19 is still not completely cleaned up.

20 A spill on our property would destroy the
21 land that the goats graze on and feed on. It would
22 also contaminate the groundwater used by them and
23 ourselves.

24 If you approve this pipeline
25 construction, and we hope not, I strongly urge you

1 to follow the principle of nonproliferation and
2 locate this pipeline along the existing northern
3 pipeline corridor to minimize damage to the
4 environment, farms, and our livelihood.

5 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker card
6 I have is for a Brenda Schillo, S-C-H-I-L-L-O.

7 MS. BRENDA SCHILLO: Good evening. I'm
8 here representing myself, I'm Brenda Schillo.

9 My homestead is located on one of the
10 routes submitted to the PUC by Enbridge.

11 Last summer, I received a certified
12 letter from Enbridge stating my property was located
13 on a proposed Sandpiper route. I immediately did
14 research on Enbridge to learn about this company
15 that would possibly have eminent domain power over
16 my family's property. And I learned a lot.

17 Then late in 2013 Enbridge filed a legal
18 document with the PUC stating the company was now
19 known as the North Dakota Pipeline Company, LLC.

20 I guess I have more of a question than a
21 comment. If the landowners on the chosen route are
22 expected to negotiate legally binding contracts with
23 NDPC, should landowners be concerned that NDPC is a
24 limited liability corporation and not Enbridge?

25 Thank you.

1 Should I be concerned?

2 MR. MARK CURWIN: Again, Mark Curwin with
3 our major projects management team in Superior.

4 The name change came about as a result of
5 a transaction that was associated with the proposal.
6 One of the anchor shippers of the proposed Sandpiper
7 pipeline is Marathon. And in our discussions with
8 them regarding the project, we entered into an
9 agreement whereby they are funding part of the cost
10 of construction of the project, as well as they've
11 taken a minority interest in our North Dakota
12 system. Once that transaction was completed
13 recently, as you know from when the application --
14 the name change was filed, we changed the name of
15 the organization. It's merely a name change in that
16 sense.

17 MS. BRENDA SCHILLO: I think there's more
18 to a name and I think I need more information on the
19 name change.

20 MR. MARK CURWIN: There's public
21 information about it. That's what it is. Nobody is
22 trying to hide anything. It's still Enbridge, we
23 still operate the North Dakota pipeline system and
24 we will still operate the Sandpiper Pipeline system
25 if it gets approved.

1 MS. BRENDA SCHILLO: Thank you.

2 MR. MARK CURWIN: Okay.

3 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker card
4 I have is Jane Fisher-Merritt. And following her
5 would be Margaret Schulstrom.

6 MS. JANE FISHER-MERRITT: Hi. My name is
7 Jane, J-A-N-E, Fisher-Merritt, F-I-S-H-E-R -
8 M-E-R-R-I-T-T.

9 So my name is Jane Fisher-Merritt and
10 I've been an organic farmer in Carlton County for 40
11 years. In the early -- this is kind of a broken
12 record, but I guess we wouldn't order it when we
13 turned in our cards.

14 Early maps of the Enbridge Sandpiper
15 route showed the pipeline crossing three 40-acre
16 parcels of our certified organic farm south of
17 Wrenshall. Then the original route submitted with
18 Enbridge's PUC application had the pipeline moved
19 just feet from our northern boundary. The amended
20 route submitted in January as Enbridge's preferred
21 route has the pipeline approximately two miles north
22 of our land in the existing northern corridor.

23 And I do want to thank you at Enbridge
24 for making that change. And I want to state clearly
25 that the amended preferred route is a vast

1 improvement and I believe the best choice of the two
2 Enbridge has placed before the PUC. So I am really,
3 I guess, speaking to the PUC and DCC about why that
4 was the better choice.

5 My reason is that northern Minnesota
6 can't afford to lose scarce farmland to pipeline
7 construction. My husband and I began our vegetable
8 operation in southern Carlton County without knowing
9 much about soil types. We found we had expected
10 more from the soil than that farm could provide.
11 Organic vegetables require very fertile,
12 nutrient-rich soils with a complex mix of ecological
13 components.

14 Using the county soil survey map, we
15 learned the locations of the soil types that could
16 grow vegetables. We began to search for a farm with
17 Campia silt loam and found this soil type on the
18 farm at our present location near Wrenshall. Only
19 two percent of the land in Carlton County is
20 classified as Campia silt loam. That's what I call
21 scarce farmland.

22 Food Farm has become the premier organic
23 vegetable farm in northern Minnesota. We were
24 chosen as Organic Farmers of the Year in 2012. My
25 point is that it was the change of location to a

1 better soil type that made our success possible.

2 My husband and I have mentored beginning
3 farmers in this region from Grand Marais, Embarrass,
4 Saginaw, the Duluth area, Wrenshall, Mahtowa, and
5 Mora. We know from our own experience and from
6 working with other farmers the irreplaceable value
7 of soils and these soil types. We want you to
8 understand that good soils are not fungible, were
9 formed through the interaction of minerals, plants,
10 animals, water, microbial life in this place over
11 eons and cannot be recreated by backfill.

12 I am very grateful that resolutions on
13 the route passed by Blackhoof and Wrenshall
14 Townships and in negotiations with Enbridge by our
15 county commissioners to keep the route from crossing
16 the sustainable district and our farm and others
17 demonstrates that this community values an
18 environment where restorative economy and
19 agriculture can thrive.

20 This is my experience farming in eastern
21 Carlton County. Campia silt loam is not the only
22 soil type considered to be prime farmland, but I
23 must tell you I'm very concerned that in the
24 pipeline routing application NDPC states that,
25 quote, Approximately 61.2 percent of the soils

1 within the project area are considered prime
2 farmland, unquote.

3 It is imperative that the PUC, OAH, DOC,
4 DNR, and agencies responsible to protect the
5 long-term public interest consider the impact to
6 food security for Minnesotans. Producing our food
7 takes more than dirt, it requires good soil.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: I'll call the next
10 two speakers, because I'm assuming they're husband
11 and wife, and that would be the Schulstroms,
12 Margaret and Steven.

13 MS. MARGARET SCHULSTROM: No, I'm his
14 daughter.

15 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: I put my foot in my
16 mouth.

17 MS. MARGARET SCHULSTROM: Just a little.

18 Hello. My name is Margaret Schulstrom.

19 That's M-A-R-G-A-R-E-T, S-C-H-U-L-S-T-R-O-M.

20 I live with my family on a farm
21 specifically chosen for its lack of utility
22 corridors of any kind. We view the tasks of raising
23 our own food and caring for the land as paramount to
24 our way of life. I feel that crude oil pipelines
25 should be routed with other crude oil pipelines. I

1 ask you to consider the following.

2 Enbridge Energy already has a corridor
3 that runs from North Dakota to Wisconsin. I fail to
4 see why another corridor is necessary. They tell us
5 that the current corridor, the northern route, is
6 too full, and that there are numerous pinch points
7 on that route. I feel that it is the company's task
8 to fix this problem in the least invasive way
9 instead of passing the burden on to landowners who,,
10 frankly, don't wish to be burdened by the
11 construction, placement, maintenance, and likely
12 failure of the line. If Enbridge has a problem, the
13 company should solve it while causing the least
14 amounts of impact to others.

15 As I'm sure you are aware, the safety of
16 Enbridge's lines leaves much to be desired. While
17 they boast about over 99 percent safety on the
18 pipelines, when the lines do fail the cleanup is
19 sorely lacking. It is not what is transported
20 safely that matters, it's what's left behind.

21 One of the first things we learn when
22 handling a firearm is that a gun's safety is a
23 mechanical device and it can fail. No one can
24 honestly deny that this is true for more things than
25 firearms.

1 Crude oil does not belong in farmland,
2 forests, wetlands, rivers, lakes, or ponds. That
3 any landowner should have to live with this is
4 frightening, but even worse is that a landowner who
5 has previously had no utilities or only a
6 high-voltage power line would be saddled with this
7 atrocious.

8 By following the southern preferred route
9 the pipeline would traverse hundreds of parcels of
10 land heretofore untouched by this type of energy
11 corridor. High-voltage power lines and crude oil
12 pipelines do not present identical concerns. The
13 effects of the power lines are nothing like those of
14 a crude oil pipeline. For routing purposes,
15 grouping the two together into the category of
16 utility corridors lacks perspicacity. Landowners
17 who purchased land with power lines should not have
18 to contend with this much greater threat.

19 For the reasons outlined above, I feel
20 that the northern route is a much more appropriate
21 location for an additional pipeline. Siting
22 pipelines together just makes sense. There is only
23 one corridor to inspect, one set of landowners
24 affected, only one stretch of land debased. I
25 therefore ask that if this pipeline is to be built

1 at all, that it be sited on the northern route.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Steve Schulstrom.

4 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: That was my
5 daughter.

6 Steve Schulstrom, S-T-E-V-E,
7 S-C-H-U-L-S-T-R-O-M.

8 Thank you all for coming. This has been
9 just great. I'm actually going to ask you guys some
10 questions. Is that okay?

11 MR. KEVIN WALLI: Yeah, that's fine.

12 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: Okay. As
13 Mr. Hartman stated, it's best to work with your
14 neighbors if you're interested in proposing a route
15 segment. But it would seem to me that the more
16 neighbors you could talk to, the better.

17 Keeping that in mind, why does Enbridge,
18 North Dakota Pipeline Company, believe that keeping
19 the list of affected landowners a secret is in the
20 public interest?

21 MR. KEVIN WALLI: Keeping the list
22 secret?

23 MR. MARK CURWIN: I'm not really sure
24 what you mean by that, Steve.

25 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: You don't know

1 what I mean?

2 MR. MARK CURWIN: Can you elaborate on
3 that? What really is your question?

4 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: I wrote it down
5 here so I wouldn't get mixed up.

6 Why are you keeping the landowner list
7 secret, under a trade secret?

8 MR. KEVIN WALLI: In this proceeding and
9 in past proceedings, there have been circumstances
10 where people have sought the list and then they've
11 used it to solicit landowners. So the request has
12 been made that the list of landowners not be
13 published so that people are not contacted for
14 reasons that may have nothing to do with the routing
15 that's in question.

16 So everyone who's on the list receives
17 their notices, we're obliged to be in contact with
18 everybody, but the list itself isn't available to
19 everyone. It's not a public document.

20 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: Why isn't it a
21 public document?

22 MR. KEVIN KALUZNIAK: As I said, there
23 have been instances where people have tried to use
24 the list to solicit people for their own business
25 purposes. And that was deemed by a judge not to be

1 an appropriate use of the list.

2 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: So working with
3 our neighbors is not a good idea? Because I'm not
4 looking to solicit a list for business purposes.

5 MR. KEVIN WALLI: I think the object that
6 was raised by the Department staff is a valid point,
7 to work with your neighbors. I think reaching out
8 to your neighbors, just those who you know, and
9 expanding your network through meetings such as this
10 is maybe the most effective way to do that.

11 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: It would be more
12 effective if we had the resources of Enbridge, North
13 Dakota Pipeline Company, to do so. Thank you.

14 Second question.

15 MR. KEVIN WALLI: Okay.

16 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: Given that the
17 public comment and public input are important for
18 this project, what is the thinking behind North
19 Dakota Pipeline Company purchasing easements ahead
20 of the PUC determining the actual route?

21 MR. MARK CURWIN: We recognize that
22 that's completely at our risk, Steve. If the PUC
23 were to decide to not approve the project, then
24 that's at our risk.

25 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: So you're just --

1 that's at your risk, but what was the thinking
2 behind doing it that way?

3 MR. MARK CURWIN: It's part of planning,
4 that's how you plan a large infrastructure project.
5 You need to progress certain aspects of it so it can
6 be completed at the right time if it gets approved.

7 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: This question is
8 kind of a follow-up question for the -- not the PUC,
9 but the Department of Commerce.

10 Do you think that that is an appropriate
11 use of -- I don't know exactly what I'm looking for,
12 but it seems like it would squelch public input,
13 even though we have a lot of people here even though
14 they did that.

15 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Perhaps I'll try to
16 respond to that as best I can.

17 Again, the PUC regulates a number of
18 different entities. There's a big difference
19 between, say, companies that operate pipelines
20 versus electric utilities or telephones.

21 For example, electric utilities only
22 build facilities that are initially approved -- are
23 initially approved by the Midwest Independent System
24 Operator. So in that sense the utilities are
25 heavily regulated. There's no such kind of overview

1 or planning agency for pipelines, it's more of a
2 free market situation.

3 Historically, when jurisdiction resided
4 with the MEQB and as it resides with the Commission
5 now, the Commission is not involved in what the
6 financial transactions are between the company and a
7 landowner and/or landowners, per se. You know,
8 given the timing of things and, again, as Mark
9 indicated, it's at their own risk.

10 So, for example, if they came to you and
11 you decided to sign -- and I'm not saying you're
12 going to or you have to or anything else -- and they
13 gave you a check, that check is -- you can cash the
14 check, and if the pipeline goes someplace else,
15 again, it's at their own risk.

16 If they do acquire easements during the
17 permitting process, which they are allowed to do,
18 they cannot use that as a means of convincing the
19 Commission that this should be our route because we
20 have easements. So, again, it's at their own risk.

21 On previous pipeline projects the same
22 things have occurred. The fact that they've
23 acquired easements has never been mentioned by the
24 applicant as a supporting reason. It's something
25 that the Commission is aware of, the fact that it

1 will not be considered by the Commission as a
2 factor. So, again, it's at Enbridge's risk.

3 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: Thank you very
4 much for that clarification.

5 Do I have another two minutes?

6 MS. TRACY SMETANA: 3:20.

7 MR. STEVE SCHULSTROM: Thank you.

8 So my statement is real easy. I have a
9 certified organic farm that may be in the path of
10 the Sandpiper Pipeline. A lot of the criteria for
11 routing is socioeconomic. Accordingly, I have the
12 following comments.

13 Some people are ambivalent about land use
14 issues, other people are very particular about how
15 their land is used, and I will fall into the last
16 category. It's really quite simple. We would not
17 be able to tap our maple trees, maple syrup, if
18 those maple trees are gone. A pipeline would
19 destroy our farm's future. It's just that simple.

20 Thank you.

21 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Before I call the
22 next speaker, I'd like to check with Janet. Do you
23 need a break at this point in time?

24 COURT REPORTER: I think I'd like a break.

25 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: I have 7:46, why

1 don't we reconvene at 8:00. And we'll announce that
2 over the microphone also.

3 Again, I'm here if you have questions of
4 me, there are also representatives of Enbridge here.
5 If you need maps, they're available out there,
6 please go to the table and the staff out there will
7 assist you.

8 (Break taken from 7:46 to 8:00.)

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1 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The court reporter
2 has requested if you have a written statement to try
3 to encapsulate it or hit the high points and then
4 give that document to the court reporter and she'll
5 put everything into the record. And that might
6 shorten up the time and give everybody an
7 opportunity to speak, otherwise we may run into a
8 time restriction problem and we'd certainly like to
9 hear from everybody. So thank you.

10 And, with that, the next speaker would be
11 Eric Forland. I'm sorry. Loretta Carter --
12 Cartner?

13 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: My name is Loretta
14 Cartner, L-O-R-E-T-T-A. C-A-R-T-N-E-R.

15 I live on County Road 1 about two miles
16 south of Wrenshall. My life has been in turmoil
17 after being notified by Enbridge pipelines that they
18 proposed a hazardous liquid pipeline near our home.

19 When we chose to live in this area, we
20 intentionally searched for a location surrounded by
21 a diverse forest and compatible agriculture and away
22 from electrical and pipeline right-of-ways. The
23 large tract of pristine forest immediately east of
24 our property is ecologically diverse and is
25 transected by numerous small tributaries that flow

1 into the State of Minnesota recognized Clear Creek,
2 which then flows into the Nemadji River, both
3 protected watersheds.

4 This forest functions as a wildlife
5 corridor between Jay Cooke State Park and the
6 Nemadji State Forest and beyond. We've seen a
7 variety of mammals such as otters migrate to the
8 area, which is amazing on the snow. It harbors many
9 deer and nesting owls and other birds. There are
10 beaver ponds and a variety of forest types. All at
11 risk of a hazardous liquid pipeline corridor to
12 invade right through the heart of this pristine
13 area.

14 To our south and west, we live within a
15 vibrant and expanding organic sustainable farming
16 community, which is a huge bonus since I strongly
17 believe in these principles and directly benefit
18 from our neighbors' care of the land.

19 I cringe at the thought of a hazardous
20 liquid pipeline invading our community and
21 potentially destroying the delicate balance of the
22 surrounding ecosystem and negatively affecting the
23 socioeconomics of their ventures. It could risk
24 future economic growth of sustainable farming in our
25 area.

1 I also fear for my safety and well-being
2 living just 200 feet from the proposed high-pressure
3 hazardous liquids pipeline. As we all know, a
4 pipeline leaks and accidents cannot be completely
5 avoided and they do happen. Small leaks are often
6 not detected early enough to avoid contamination of
7 the soil and groundwater.

8 My drinking water well is located 250
9 feet downgradient from the proposed pipeline. Large
10 spills and explosions can be devastating to me, my
11 family, and property. According to Enbridge's 2012
12 corporate social responsibility summary, over five
13 million gallons of pipeline liquids transported over
14 the previous ten years are missing. One can surmise
15 that much of this hazardous liquid was lost to these
16 spills.

17 Our property value with or without
18 hazardous spills would depreciate. Local accounts
19 indicate selling a home near a pipeline would
20 increase the length of time it takes to sell a
21 property and, on top of that, a reduced selling
22 price. Understanding that public perception drives
23 value is the foundation in analyzing the effect that
24 hazardous liquids pipelines have on property value.
25 Our livelihood is at risk.

1 I do not believe private individuals
2 should bear the burden of what a government
3 considers a public purpose. The constitution of the
4 State of Minnesota, Article I - Bill of Rights, says
5 Private property shall not be taken, destroyed or
6 damaged for public use without just compensation,
7 therefor first paid or secured. Yet the process for
8 assessing compensation through eminent domain along
9 hazardous liquid pipelines falls short of the
10 negative financial impacts to landowners and
11 property values. This includes not receiving full
12 compensation for the devaluation of adjoining
13 property to the right-of-way and connecting parcels
14 in the estate.

15 As a result of case law, the State has
16 statutes that account for just compensation for
17 electrical transmission takings under eminent domain
18 and attempt to protect the landowner from unjust
19 takings. In fact, it goes even further to require
20 companies to buy a property if a landowner feels
21 they do not choose to live near a transmission line.
22 Unfortunately, the State falls short of protection
23 to landowners impacted by proposed hazardous liquid
24 pipeline eminent domain procedures who find
25 themselves struggling for social and economic

1 justice on their own.

2 So, when I heard that the Carlton County
3 Commissioners and Enbridge were working together to
4 search for a revised pipeline route that would
5 improve compatibility with land uses and valuable
6 environmental and economic resources in our area, I
7 felt a sense of guarded relief. They both recognize
8 there are socioeconomic and natural resource impacts
9 of pipelines and acknowledge the importance of
10 protecting the sustainable agriculture community in
11 our area and to reduce natural resource degradation.
12 They found a way to more closely comply with the
13 state's pipeline routing criteria by keeping the
14 route as close as possible to existing
15 rights-of-ways.

16 MS. TRACY SMETANA: Excuse me, that's
17 five minutes.

18 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: Five minutes?

19 MS. TRACY SMETANA: Yep. So to allow
20 other people an opportunity, if you can turn the
21 paperwork in, we'll add that to the record.

22 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: Okay. All right.

23 MS. TRACY SMETANA: Thank you.

24 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: I would like to get
25 some questions answered.

1 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: We'll take a few
2 questions.

3 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: What criteria will
4 the PUC use to decide whether a route proposed by
5 the public will be included in the comparative
6 environmental analysis at the hearings?

7 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: I guess that question
8 is directed towards me. Did you pick up a guidance
9 document out there at the front table?

10 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: Yes, I did.

11 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Okay. If you'd go
12 through and you read that, it tries to be
13 self-explanatory. I guess I gave a written example
14 up there, too. Rather than perhaps taking time to
15 try to explain it, I could go on for that, but if
16 you want to call me we can certainly discuss that
17 later on and I'd be glad to assist you.

18 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: I understand how to
19 submit an alternative. What I'm asking is what
20 criteria will the PUC use in deciding whether or not
21 they're going to allow that alternative to be
22 analyzed?

23 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: If I can speak from
24 past experience in other projects, almost all of
25 them except one, I believe, has gone forward to the

1 Commission. Again, the one that was not considered
2 by the Commission, that was a MinnCan project, it
3 was around the Twin Cities area. Those two original
4 pipelines were built in the '50s. I remember my
5 father used to farm some of that. There were
6 perhaps a couple thousand homes built immediately
7 adjacent to the pipelines in the Minnesota pipeline
8 system and physically there just wasn't room there
9 and you'd be tearing out sheds, houses, garages, as
10 well as homes and they certainly wanted to avoid
11 that. So that was dismissed by the Commission as
12 being a viable alternative to carry forward to
13 public hearings.

14 For the most part we will go through,
15 review them, and if we feel we need more
16 information, at least I do, I will contact you and
17 work with you to kind of bring it up to that level
18 and then I'll pass it on to the Commission with a
19 recommendation.

20 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: All right. Very
21 good. And let's see. Will the public have
22 opportunity to comment on DNR and MPCA permits prior
23 to the issuance of the routing permit? Certificate
24 of need?

25 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The primary permit is

1 issued by the Commission. The other permits
2 typically aren't issued until after the Commission
3 has made a determination. That doesn't mean they
4 haven't applied to those agencies for the permits.
5 It allows them to go through and do the review
6 process.

7 I believe the way the law is written that
8 the Commission has to make a determination on
9 whether there's a need for it and then a route
10 permit and then other downstream agencies would
11 issue the permits that they are responsible for.
12 That also includes permits from, typically, you
13 know, road crossings, railroad crossings, watershed
14 districts, watershed management areas, and all the
15 other entities.

16 I believe, if I remember correctly, and
17 perhaps Enbridge can correct me if I'm wrong, but I
18 believe on the Alberta Clipper project they needed
19 over 400 different permits, I'm thinking about 450,
20 but I may be vague on that.

21 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: My question was,
22 though, is there a public process to participate in
23 those permits? Because I understand there's
24 probably some mitigations that maybe would be --

25 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The agencies will

1 specify mitigation. The DNR makes recommendations
2 into our record. They may propose additional routes
3 or route segments, as maybe the Minnesota Pollution
4 Control Agency also, based on their review of data
5 they receive from Enbridge regarding water quality
6 issues, you know, downstream, you know, downstream,
7 upstream, depending on the way the water flows. I'm
8 not familiar with the details of those permitting
9 processes to know.

10 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: That's what I was
11 curious about. I'll get ahold of those agencies.

12 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: And, again, I can
13 also find out on your behalf and let you know, if
14 that would be easier for you also. And there is a
15 representative from DNR here if you'd like to speak
16 to her, Jamie, sitting right here. Okay?

17 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: Okay. Good, thank
18 you.

19 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Do you have any other
20 questions?

21 MS. LORETTA CARTNER: I do, but I'll let
22 others speak.

23 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Thank you.

24 The next speaker card I have is
25 Mr. Rodney Porter. And after that, Russell Pollak,

1 I believe.

2 MR. RODNEY PORTER: Hello. My name is
3 Rodney Porter, R-O-D-N-E-Y, P-O-R-T-E-R. And I'll
4 apologize because I'm not going to be nearly as
5 polished as the previous speakers.

6 I live in Mahtowa. I have my entire
7 life. I'm a fourth generation of a family and my
8 son will be the fifth generation on the same
9 property.

10 Enbridge speaks of respect for the
11 landowner. I have a hard time believing that. The
12 reason why I say this, this all started off with
13 letters saying that they wanted permission to
14 survey. That permission was never granted. And yet
15 you proceeded. And when questioned upon it, you
16 refuted the fact that you had been there, although I
17 have photographic proof that you were.

18 One thing the PUC should -- and the
19 public should keep in mind. Your rights aren't the
20 rights you think you have.

21 I have a couple questions for Enbridge.
22 Why not follow the northern route?

23 MR. BARRY SIMONSON: Thanks for your
24 question, Mr. Porter.

25 Early on in the routing process we --

1 obviously, there are six or seven Enbridge-owned
2 pipelines that do traverse across the states of
3 North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin. In terms of the
4 northern corridor, being that there are six or seven
5 pipelines, and part of the routing process is to
6 look at where can we route a pipeline with existing
7 utilities, whether they're Enbridge-owned or other
8 utilities.

9 In terms of that corridor at this point
10 in time, with the last pipeline being placed in 2009
11 through there, there's encroachment onto additional
12 population centers that go through Bemidji, it goes
13 through Cass Lake, it goes through Grand Rapids,
14 Cohasset. As well as the last pipeline that was
15 placed, there are additional transmission lines that
16 have been placed from Bemidji all the way to Grand
17 Rapids, which are adjacent to the existing lines
18 that Enbridge owns.

19 That being said, there would be
20 additional new routes and bumpouts that would need
21 to occur within the Chippewa National Forest, for
22 example. So there's much more encroachment on that
23 right-of-way at this point in time and that's part
24 of the reason -- that's predominately the reason why
25 we chose the southern route, as I've shown on the

1 screen previously.

2 MR. RODNEY PORTER: The next question I
3 have for you, and this will be fairly specific, I'm
4 going to be filing for a route change.

5 In Carlton County you follow a power line
6 corridor until you reach the town of Mahtowa. Then
7 for some unforeseen reason you divert south,
8 parallel almost to Highway 4 until you reach I-35.
9 For two miles you divert from that power line. Then
10 you swing back right back to that power line. Why?
11 Just to take more land? Is it a grab?

12 MR. BARRY SIMONSON: No. To answer that
13 question, in terms of the routing through the
14 western side of I-35, with that power line being
15 there there are more extensive wetlands that exist
16 once you route easterly, so that's part of the
17 reason why, from an environmental perspective, we
18 decided to route further to the south than bump back
19 up into that corridor, that electrical corridor
20 you're speaking of.

21 MR. RODNEY PORTER: Thank you.

22 One question I have is how can the
23 company, Enbridge or North Dakota Pipeline, whatever
24 you choose to call yourselves, ask landowners in
25 your easement to bypass Minnesota state statutes

1 upon the depth at which a petroleum line should be
2 buried on agricultural property? Instead of the
3 state statute at the four and a half feet, you're
4 asking these landowners to allow you to bury it at a
5 shallower depth of three feet. How in good
6 conscience and on your record for safety can you ask
7 these landowners to do that?

8 MR. MARK CURWIN: Mark Curwin again.

9 Our federal regulations have a
10 requirement of three feet depth of cover. So that
11 is standard for our industry. The state has a
12 requirement of a deeper cover and also that the
13 landowner can waive that by statute. It has to be a
14 clear waiver, but it's entirely voluntary on the
15 part of the landowner. It's a lot -- from a
16 construction standpoint, the deeper you go, the
17 bigger impact there's going to be on your property.

18 MR. RODNEY PORTER: Isn't it also cheaper
19 to dig shallower, sir?

20 MR. MARK CURWIN: It has nothing to do
21 with cost.

22 MR. RODNEY PORTER: Oh, it doesn't, when
23 you're moving 30 percent more soil?

24 MR. MARK CURWIN: We have many locations
25 where we cross wetlands, rivers, roads, drainage

1 ditches, where we're deep.

2 MR. RODNEY PORTER: Okay. My final thing
3 is a statement I'd like to say to the PUC.

4 I ask the PUC to protect the rights of
5 landowners, those who cherish the land. Don't turn
6 us into solely land holders who get to pay the
7 property taxes so that a foreign company can profit.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Russell Pollak was
10 the next speaker. And after Russell I have Katy
11 Collier, C-O-L-L-I-E-R, from Carlton.

12 MR. RUSSELL POLLAK: You can have a copy
13 of this already. My name is Russell Pollak.

14 First off, let me say that I don't oppose
15 a new pipeline. It's going to happen. What I'm
16 opposed to is a new route for one. The route of the
17 existing petroleum pipeline is a better choice for
18 all involved other than the pipeline company
19 themselves. This established line would save many
20 acres of private wooded areas, fields, creeks,
21 rivers, and permanent damage to our wooded areas
22 that are home to our wildlife.

23 I feel the main reason that they want to
24 open a new southern route is to avoid the power of
25 the Native American tribes that the existing

1 northern route crosses over. It is easier for the
2 corporations to bargain with the common man who
3 doesn't have the resources to hire lawyers to defend
4 their rights and causes. They can take our lands by
5 eminent domain. We have no say in it.

6 I have worked for 20 years on my piece of
7 ground to make it the way I want it. I own this
8 land, I pay taxes every year to keep this land, and
9 I should have a right to say what is done to it.

10 I have a proposed alternative route that
11 I have given maps to. It's in regards to this -- by
12 Mahtowa. They're already on this existing petroleum
13 line, why not stay down there instead of coming up
14 on top of the hill and disrupting my life. The
15 route would take the pipeline 140 yards from my
16 front door, 300 feet from my fresh water pond. I
17 feel this would be detrimental to the privacy I've
18 come to enjoy.

19 The executives from Enbridge would be the
20 first to complain if someone would put a pipeline
21 through their front yard. Any rupture of that
22 pipeline would devastate many more acres of land
23 because of the steep drainage between here and 61,
24 which here is my place. There are these three small
25 tributaries that run up this hill down to Highway

1 61. Therefore, I feel it would be more
2 environmentally safe to put it next to the other
3 pipe which they're going to be running on a quarter
4 mile anyway.

5 What they offer for money is in no way
6 compensation. They don't want to deal at all. They
7 were at my house, tried to get me to sign an
8 easement.

9 And on a final note, I was wondering if
10 Enbridge was breaking the law by buying easements.
11 According to 216G.03, pipeline proposal, easement
12 acquisition. Subdivision 1, compliance and penalty.
13 Any person proposing to construct or operate a
14 pipeline shall comply with the provisions of this
15 section before negotiating or acquiring any easement
16 or right-of-way agreement for that purpose. Any
17 person who negotiates or acquires an easement
18 without complying with the provisions of this
19 section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

20 Has this pipeline been approved already
21 or has the Commission already sided with Enbridge
22 and they'll grant whatever route they request? It
23 is my understanding that the PUC has not selected
24 any official route for the pipeline as of this date.

25 Thank you.

1 MS. KATY COLLIER: Good evening. My name
2 is Katy Collier, K-A-T-Y, C-O-L-L-I-E-R. I live in
3 Carlton and I commend the people who are here.
4 Talking about statutes and organic farms and all of
5 that is wonderful. But what I ask is that you don't
6 forget the other private landowners who may not have
7 a certified organic farm, who may not have certified
8 organic dairy goats, but have just lived on this
9 land for four to five generations. Lived on it,
10 bled for it, sweated for it, cried over it. Paid
11 taxes to the State of Minnesota for years and years
12 and years, and the County of Carlton.

13 I had an opportunity to sit with my
14 in-laws during one of these land easement
15 negotiations. And the gentleman who came in was
16 very smooth. And that smoothness tended to go away
17 after he faced any kind of opposition. And he kind
18 of questioned and it became more of a, and I quote,
19 this pipeline is a force of nature and it is going
20 to happen, end quote.

21 Sitting at their kitchen table in their
22 house. Speaking to them like that. And an older
23 couple. And then plopping down a piece of paper
24 with an amount on it, saying if you sign this within
25 30 days you get this amount. An incentive, he

1 called it. But if you don't sign, we're going to
2 cut that value in half. And I guess this
3 speculation for your company is this is going to go
4 through, it's going to happen. So we can afford to
5 speculate on easements.

6 But I ask you, if you don't have
7 permission for this already, why does the value of
8 that easement drop so much after that 30-day time
9 frame? Why is it not worth the same amount?

10 MR. JOHN MCKAY: This is John McKay,
11 manager of land services for Enbridge.

12 We do have an early signing bonus, as you
13 indicated. We do have many other things that are
14 part of the compensation package. Our intent is to
15 amicably, you know, negotiate with the landowner,
16 reach a settlement. I do apologize for the
17 treatment. I would like to speak with you more
18 about that, the agent treatment.

19 MS. KATY COLLIER: This is the same
20 property that had no permission, there was no
21 permission given, but we have cameras with Enbridge
22 surveyor's walking on the land.

23 MR. JOHN MCKAY: Okay. That is not
24 something I want to hear about.

25 MS. KATY COLLIER: It's a precedent.

1 MR. JOHN MCKAY: It is my responsibility
2 as manager and I do want to speak with you after.

3 MS. KATY COLLIER: It's a precedent.
4 Because if that's the treatment the landowner gets
5 prepipeline, I can't imagine the treatment they get
6 after.

7 The property that they're going to go
8 through has mature oaks, maples, blueberry patches,
9 it's been in the family for a long time. And the
10 initial rape of the land, and it is rape of the land
11 'cause there's a scar that will never heal, it will
12 never be allowed to heal. Those trees will never
13 come back, the land will never be used for the
14 purpose it was intended for when these people have
15 lived on it and loved it for generations.

16 It's not going to be allowed to heal.
17 Nothing is going to come back. The privately-owned
18 lands will never truly be the landowners' ever
19 again. No houses will be built near this pipeline.
20 Landowners will pay taxes to the county and state
21 for land that's really not theirs to use in the
22 intended purpose ever again.

23 And every few years, whenever Enbridge
24 wants to, or North Dakota Pipeline, whatever you
25 want to call yourselves, you want to hammer another

1 line in that the ground, you have the right to do so
2 without anybody saying so.

3 And when the pipes fail, and they will
4 fail, the substance going through there isn't water.
5 When they fail, will you care? I don't think so.
6 When you can fork out billions of dollars for
7 cleanups and fines, I don't think it's going to
8 matter to you whether my water is contaminated or
9 not. Whether I can sell my property or not. You'll
10 simply pay out more blood money while we watch
11 generations of hard work and dreams rot under a film
12 of oil.

13 We ask this agency to prove me wrong in
14 my cynicism that this is a done deal. Prove me
15 wrong. Step up for the people who live, work, and
16 die in the state of Minnesota.

17 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Ryan Swanson. And
18 after Ryan I have a card for Anne Dugan.

19 MR. RYAN SWANSON: Good evening. My name
20 is Ryan Swanson, R-Y-A-N, S-W-A-N-S-O-N.

21 I wasn't going to speak tonight, but my
22 mom called me today, she was pretty upset, and I
23 felt I needed to say something.

24 I'm not against pipelines. I think
25 there's a need for pipelines. But not 250 feet from

1 my mom's front door. My mom lives on County Road 5
2 down here, she's been there for 40 years, I grew up
3 there. And next to her there's a power line, and in
4 between the power line and my mom's house is where
5 this new pipeline is proposed to go.

6 So, you know, my first point, I guess,
7 is, you know, my biggest concern right now is fire
8 danger for her. You know, this new oil that you
9 guys are transporting, you know, it's a light crude,
10 highly flammable oil, almost like gasoline. I've
11 talked to a few guys that have been near it at the
12 railroad yards and they say, you know, you're above
13 it and it's like vapors coming at you.

14 And we all remember the explosion not too
15 long ago in North Dakota. It was out in the rural
16 area so it wasn't a big impact. But if that would
17 have been 200 feet from my mom's house, it probably
18 would have took the house and my neighbors', also --
19 or her neighbors'. Also remember back to the Quebec
20 explosion in July of 2013, it killed 27 people,
21 leveling a town. That just doesn't sound like a
22 safe location for a pipeline that close to my mom's
23 house.

24 Point B. You know, we know once one line
25 is there, there's more to follow, okay. And you're

1 not going to go closer to the power line with a
2 pipeline, you're going to go closer to my mom's
3 house. So now, you know, you got to have your safe
4 distance from the other pipeline, so now you're
5 getting closer to her house yet, maybe even have to
6 take her house out someday, you start talking three,
7 four, five pipelines.

8 The third point I got is, you know,
9 eventually there's going to be a leak, you know.
10 Happening at that particular point, you know, is
11 highly unlikely, but if it does happen, you know,
12 that area out there is high sand and gravel country
13 and that oil, if it leaks there, it's going to get
14 right in the aquifer and contaminate a large area of
15 aquifer.

16 So I guess in closing I'd just ask the
17 PUC that, you know, I'd really like them to choose
18 that north route or the Soo Line route that was
19 talked about earlier and keep this line away from my
20 mother's house.

21 Thank you.

22 MS. ANNE DUGAN: My name is any Anne
23 Dugan, A-N-N-E, D-U-G-A-N, and I live in Wrenshall,
24 Minnesota.

25 There are quite a few people here tonight

1 that have and will speak about why land in Carlton
2 County is not suitable for a new oil pipeline
3 corridor. I agree with the people that have and
4 will speak on why a new pipeline corridor is
5 incompatible with sustainable farming, a fast
6 growing business in our community that supports not
7 only local farmers but also feeds the larger region.

8 I agree with the people that have and
9 will speak tonight about the importance of
10 protecting the delicate ecosystem that feeds into
11 our region's most precious resource, Lake Superior.

12 And I agree with the people who have and
13 will speak about private property rights.

14 What I want to comment on tonight --

15 COURT REPORTER: You will have to slow
16 down, please.

17 MS. ANNE DUGAN: Oh, sorry. I'm trying
18 to go quick so I can get done. The first part is
19 not that important.

20 What I want to comment on tonight
21 dovetails with all these things, and that's the
22 tourism and sustainable development potential in our
23 community that I believe is incompatible with a new
24 pipeline corridor.

25 I run a popular film festival in

1 Wrenshall, the Free Range Film Festival, and it's in
2 its eleventh year. We get 500 people that come,
3 many of them from outside of the area, Twin Cities,
4 Chicago, New York, even Germany.

5 From 2007 to 2010 I served on the Cloquet
6 Tourism Board and I attended tourism conferences in
7 the Twin Cities put on by Explore Minnesota.

8 From 2006 to 2011 I served as executive
9 director of the Carlton County Historical Society
10 and I'm currently the curator at the Duluth Art
11 Institute.

12 I list all that because in all these
13 roles I've interacted with the tourism field and I
14 feel there is amazing potential for ecotourism land
15 use in Carlton County. And I would hope the
16 Minnesota Public Utilities Commission would take a
17 forward-thinking approach when considering land use
18 possibilities for our area.

19 On Tuesday, March 11th, the New York
20 Times printed an article about the growing trend in
21 residential development, where working farms become
22 a central feature in community development. The
23 article quotes Ed McMahon, a senior fellow for
24 Sustainable Development at the Urban Land Institute,
25 a nonprofit real estate research group in

1 Washington, D.C. I hear from developers all the
2 time about this, they figured out that, unlike a
3 golf course which costs millions to build and
4 millions to maintain, they can provide green space
5 that actually earns a profit.

6 Given the growth of sustainable farms in
7 our region there is real potential for this kind of
8 development that supports the people in the
9 community rather than a foreign-owned company. New
10 oil pipeline corridors restrict green building
11 development and sustainable farming operations.

12 Explore Minnesota has also invested
13 heavily in the potential for ecotourism. The
14 organization sponsors a green gateway called Green
15 Routes, a Minnesota directory that identifies
16 eateries that serve locally grown food, and sites
17 that focus on local heritage or that preserve the
18 area's natural environment. Given the proximity of
19 Jay Cooke State Park and explosion of organic farms,
20 and cultural attractions such as the Free Range Film
21 Festival and the Historic Scott House, Carlton
22 County is a perfect candidate for this kind of
23 tourism and the economic benefits that come with it.

24 The population center of Duluth would
25 also support this potential for ecotourism and

1 sustainable development. Duluth Mayor Don Ness in
2 his State of the City Address on March 4th talked
3 about the economic potential for western
4 neighborhoods along the St. Louis River, communities
5 just minutes from those in our county who could
6 benefit from this type of ecotourism land use. Ness
7 wants to invest between \$15 million and \$18 million
8 to help transform the far western part of the city
9 from an industrial zone to a major tourist
10 destination. Carlton County could easily piggyback
11 on this potential boon, especially given the unique
12 location of Jay Cooke State Park.

13 The Minnesota Public Utilities -- sorry.

14 These aren't pie in the sky potentials
15 for our community's land use. I just had lunch
16 today with an artist who is interested in setting up
17 an artist in residence program near our farm in
18 Wrenshall. We have a meeting next week with a
19 representative from Washington, D.C. and farmers and
20 artists in Madison who successfully launched similar
21 programs. The NEA is incredibly anxious to fund
22 this kind of program. The disruption and limiting
23 potential of a new oil pipeline corridor through our
24 county would make this endeavor impossible.

25 The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

1 is required to take into account current and
2 potential land uses that could be impacted by the
3 pipeline in the determination of a route. Please do
4 not undermine the potential for growth of
5 sustainable farms that can be a draw for ecotourism
6 by establishing a new oil pipeline corridor. Please
7 don't be shortsighted in giving away what could be
8 true potential for our community, land use that
9 builds community, land use that sustains community,
10 and land use that supports community.

11 Enbridge has not sufficiently addressed
12 any of these impacts in its application and I would
13 urge the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to
14 reject a new pipeline corridor. The least damaging
15 to the land use possibilities I presented would be
16 if Enbridge stayed within its current pipeline
17 corridor on the northern route.

18 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker card
19 I have is for Sandy, S-T, I believe it's E-R-L-E.
20 After that I have one for Gary Peterson.

21 MS. SANDY STERLE: Actually, it's Sterle.
22 My name is Sandy Sterle, S-T-E-R-L-E. I've never
23 used one of these.

24 My husband and I own 160 acres in
25 Blackhoof Township. This land is in our name, but

1 over the years I have realized we are just stewards
2 of this precious land and water. Along with some
3 mature trees, we have hand-planted several thousand
4 seedlings. Nature has also filled in open spaces
5 with cherries, plum, crabapple, high-bush cranberry
6 and of course aspen. This is a bounty of food for
7 large and small creatures. I listen to the sounds
8 of chickadees, hummingbirds, owls, woodpeckers,
9 swallows, and doves from living there. We are
10 blessed with a very -- we were blessed with a varied
11 thrush for a winter season. Have you seen the dance
12 of the dragonflies in August or the hummingbird
13 moths fighting over flowers in the front yard?

14 As you can see, we have quite a diversity
15 of trees, plants, animals, and birds. The reason is
16 we have rolling hills intermixed with a number of
17 creeks and acres of wetlands. The middle of our
18 land is a large basin of a string of wetlands
19 created by beaver dams crossing from the neighbor to
20 the east onto our land and then narrowing into our
21 neighbor's land to the south, which drains into the
22 Blackhoof River. I can go anywhere on our land and
23 I know where I am. To say I love this land and its
24 diversity doesn't express how deeply I feel about
25 it.

1 So how can I show you, North Dakota
2 Pipeline Company, that you should not be allowed to
3 construct a new oil pipeline corridor through our
4 land? And you want to go right through the middle
5 of it in an upside-down V. This means a continuous
6 120-foot gap in the woods, bringing in invasive
7 species, erosion to four creeks whose banks are made
8 of sandy soils that would lose their support of the
9 mature spruce, tamarack, and other trees, creating a
10 hazardous materials corridor that would destabilize
11 the balance between a higher elevation wetland and
12 the pond west of our house through only being able
13 to transverse a narrow strip. And likely spill
14 thousands of gallons of oil because they plan to run
15 the pipe up and down elevations through the middle
16 of our property and then turn at what looks like a
17 90-degree angle on the receiving side of our big
18 marsh that flows into the Blackhoof River and into
19 the Nemadji watershed and into Lake Superior. Just
20 the topography alone is not conducive to the safety
21 of a straight pipeline.

22 For those of us who value living in
23 nature, we look at the land differently. It is not
24 about money. We understand you cannot place a price
25 on life. A biodiverse ecosystem supported by a

1 unique combination of soils, water, and weather in a
2 variety of topography sustaining a large variety of
3 trees, et cetera, is what makes life prosper.

4 What is unique about our area is the
5 people have found a way to intermix organic farming
6 production with forest and wetland ecosystems. And
7 we are a community close enough to towns like
8 Cloquet and a larger city like Duluth where we can
9 be gainfully employed or sustainably use our land to
10 produce food and products for these population
11 centers. Yet there is no commercial shopping
12 centers, fast food restaurants or large industrial
13 sites in eastern Mahtowa, Blackhoof or Wrenshall
14 Townships. And the Carlton County Commissioners
15 have recognized the economic value of keeping this
16 area pristine as the potential for more organic and
17 sustainable development.

18 Please, I'm asking the PUC to drop the
19 originally proposed southern route through this area
20 east of I-35. And, quite frankly, I don't
21 understand why Enbridge hasn't just pulled it
22 already.

23 For many families, their home and land
24 are their largest investment that has taken the
25 better part of their lifetime to establish or has

1 been handed down through their family. The economic
2 impact of a new pipeline corridor, especially on
3 land which has no utility corridors, and when it is
4 proposed through the middle of a property, would
5 have a significant negative impact to the value of
6 both the home and the land.

7 Not only does it create an artificial
8 border, which NDPC will demand the right to protect,
9 but also, as in our case, it would result in us not
10 being able to build a road to farm the back field or
11 log the forest beyond that if we so chose.

12 A local woman who worked as a Realtor
13 reported this drop in value is not only for the
14 landowner for whom the pipeline corridor is placed,
15 but also all the land surrounding them. And she
16 indicated it has been harder recently to sell homes
17 and property on or near a pipeline.

18 The economic impact on private owners --

19 MS. TRACY SMETANA: It's five minutes.

20 MS. SANDY STERLE: Okay. Thank you.

21 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: And after
22 Mr. Peterson, I have a card for Craig Sterle,
23 S-T-E-R-L-E.

24 MR. GARY PETERSON: Hello. My name is
25 Gary Peterson, P-E-T-E-R-S-O-N. And I know there's

I am a county commissioner representing district five. I grew up in Mahtowa.

It seems to me that Enbridge's first choice is to follow the power line from western Carlton County to Mahtowa, then go off the power line, cross the Moose Horn River, cross an existing pipeline, cross Highway 61, and enter into virgin territory.

Please consider these alternatives and I

1 hope you will listen and work with all of the
2 landowners of Carlton County.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. CRAIG STERLE: Good evening. My name
5 is Craig Sterle, a graduate forester from the
6 University of Minnesota, recently retired from the
7 Minnesota DNR as the assistant area supervisor in
8 Cloquet. I'm going to talk specifically about the
9 routes themselves, taking the information from the
10 document.

11 It appears that the northern route was
12 largely rejected because North Dakota Pipeline
13 Company is unable to use eminent domain on tribal,
14 federal, state and county land to acquire their
15 right-of-way, in particular citing an inability on
16 Leech Lake and Fond du Lac reservation lands. As
17 project planning progresses -- this a quote. As
18 project planning progresses, it became apparent
19 North Dakota Pipeline Company would not have been
20 able to assemble a continuous right-of-way for
21 significant portions of the northern route. This
22 explanation -- unquote. This explanation lacks
23 detail. It is unclear from the document if North
24 Dakota Pipeline Company ever had any recent formal
25 contact or negotiations with the tribes located on

1 the northern route. It would seem that North Dakota
2 Pipeline Company needs to contact and return to the
3 bargaining table with tribes to reach a fair
4 settlement.

5 North Dakota Pipeline Company appears
6 unwilling to bargain in good faith, pay fair
7 compensation should not be a reason -- not paying
8 fair compensation should not be a reason to reject
9 the best possible route. Therefore, the Public
10 Utilities Commission must reject the premise and
11 require North Dakota Pipeline Company to return to
12 the negotiating table with the tribes to reach an
13 equitable financial solution that will allow
14 construction on the northern route.

15 If North Dakota Pipeline Company and the
16 tribes cannot reach an agreement of their own, I
17 suggest that the PUC ask a state mediator to be
18 brought in to facilitate an agreement, possibly
19 through binding arbitration.

20 North Dakota Pipeline Company's preferred
21 route will pass through and impact the White Earth
22 Reservation, so all of the alternatives will have
23 direct impacts on the tribes. However, an entirely
24 new corridor will have less -- excuse me -- far
25 greater impacts than adding one pipe in the existing

1 right-of-way.

2 After citing several advantages to the
3 northern route, all of which should be weighed and
4 thoroughly considered against negative impacts,
5 North Dakota Pipeline Company lists several
6 disadvantages. One, the route crosses 7.8 miles of
7 additional wetlands. In shedding some light on
8 this, the wetlands along the northern route are
9 already heavily impacted by the existence of six
10 other Enbridge industrial pipeline developments.
11 And further impacts as a result of another pipeline
12 installation done with due caution will have far
13 less impact on the environment than putting the same
14 pipeline in a comparatively pristine environment of
15 the preferred route. One additional pipeline in the
16 present corridor will have far fewer social and
17 environmental consequences than the proliferation of
18 an all new right-of-way.

19 Therefore, the Public Utilities
20 Commission must reject this argument by North Dakota
21 Pipeline Company that this route will negatively
22 impact the wetlands along the northern route to a
23 greater extent than the preferred route, and require
24 North Dakota Pipeline Company to utilize their
25 existing main line right-of-way, the northern route

1 alternative.

2 In viewing the comparison data on Table
3 2.3.3-1, the northern route is shorter by 43 miles;
4 utilizes more right-of-way, existing right-of-way,
5 12 miles more; impacts far fewer miles of green
6 field, 55 miles less; impacts 62 fewer wetlands;
7 fewer miles of highly erodible soil, 57 miles of
8 highly erodible soil; and fewer miles of prime
9 farmland, 16 miles of fewer -- of prime farmland.
10 It also provides better access, having 19 more road
11 crossing points and more railroad crossing points
12 for improved access. Using some basic math
13 calculations, this route impacts about 623 fewer
14 acres or almost one square mile.

15 MS. TRACY SMETANA: Excuse me, sir.
16 That's five minutes.

17 MR. CRAIG STERLE: Okay. One square mile
18 of additional undisturbed land.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker card
21 I have is Janaki Fisher-Merritt, and after that it's
22 Kristie Laveau.

23 MR. JANA KI FISHER-MERRITT: Hi, Janet.

24 COURT REPORTER: Hi.

25 MR. JANA KI FISHER-MERRITT: My name is

1 Janaki Fisher-Merritt. J-A-N-A-K-I, F-I-S-H-E-R -
2 M-E-R-R-I-T-T.

3 I'm afraid a lot of what I'm going to say
4 has already been covered a little bit, so I'll
5 really just try to hit the high points.

6 I live and farm in Wrenshall Township.
7 Food, community, and responsible stewardship have
8 been a focus of my past two decades, being directly
9 involved in our family's farm. My wife and I
10 purchased the farm in 2010 and we've been really
11 thrilled to be joined by a lot of new farmers whose
12 produce graces dinner tables each night in the
13 Duluth area. And I'm very proud to be part of an
14 active network of existing farmers that are
15 supportive and welcoming to new sustainable farming.

16 What we do isn't -- wouldn't only be
17 endangered by a pipeline if it just crossed our
18 land, we're also very dependent on the responsible
19 land stewards that surround us, as are other
20 potential sustainable farming operations. There's
21 been a lot of work done in our area by the Carlton
22 County Soil and Water Conservation District, the
23 University of Minnesota Extension Service, to
24 support responsible land use. And all of that, the
25 benefits to water quality and habitat biodiversity

1 benefits organic farmers because we depend on those
2 surrounding healthy plant and animal communities to
3 provide other ecosystem services to control pests
4 and insects and other diseases on our farm. So
5 we're very much dependent on responsible land
6 stewardship by other people in the community. And
7 industrial development of pipelines really endangers
8 that.

9 Production of fresh market organic
10 vegetables is very demanding of top quality soils
11 and it's extremely sensitive to degradation of soil
12 health from pipeline construction. And especially
13 reliant on stable, high-quality surroundings to
14 encourage beneficial insects and birds through our
15 advocacy work with the Land Stewardship Project, the
16 Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service,
17 Center for World Affairs, Sustainable Farming
18 Association and other groups.

19 I'm part of a wide network of farmers
20 throughout the upper Midwest, and to my knowledge
21 there's no successful organic vegetable operation
22 that farms over an oil pipeline.

23 I'm going to skip some of this here just
24 because it's been said already.

25 But as far as I can tell, the applicant's

1 environmental information report makes no mention of
2 sustainable agriculture or any of these other
3 current or future land use impacts. It says that it
4 contains a detailed description of natural
5 resources, but really it doesn't. It simply lists
6 animals that typically would live in agricultural,
7 wooded or wetland areas.

8 For all the time their survey crews spent
9 in our area, I'm really surprised at the lack of
10 specificity contained in the application. It
11 basically makes no distinction between the western
12 part of the state, the central part of the state and
13 our part of the state, let alone the varying areas
14 and different areas of biodiversity within those
15 particular areas.

16 And this is despite all the information
17 provided by myself and Carlton County Land Stewards
18 and others about the cultural, economic, social
19 impacts of pipeline construction and how that would
20 impact us in particular or people who are close by.

21 So that having been said, I support the
22 current preferred route as a significant improvement
23 over the alternative. It's a better option.
24 However, I believe the route most in keeping with
25 the principle of nonproliferation and the least

1 damaging to natural resources is the northern route
2 alongside Enbridge's main line system. However, I
3 would ask that the PUC strongly consider the no
4 action alternative.

5 It's unclear to me whether there's a
6 comprehensive plan for transporting oil out of the
7 Bakken shale or the Alberta tar sands with well over
8 a million barrels per day of increased capacity
9 being requested by Enbridge just in the last couple
10 of years, and a lot more production forecast to be
11 coming from these regions. We need a bigger picture
12 view of this issue to be able to properly balance
13 the environmental conservation and landowner rights
14 and crude oil transport.

15 Minnesota State statute calls for 15
16 percent reduction in fossil fuel use by 2015, and 25
17 percent of our energy coming from renewables by
18 2025. Minnesotans should be rewarded for their
19 ongoing efforts to conserve energy and produce more
20 renewables rather than compromising our own precious
21 natural resources so others can continue to consume.
22 The no action alternative --

23 MS. TRACY SMETANA: That's five minutes.

24 MR. JANAKI FISHER-MERRITT: This is my
25 last sentence.

1 MS. TRACY SMETANA: Thank you.

2 MR. JANAKI FISHER-MERRITT: The no action
3 alternative may not meet Enbridge's project
4 objectives, but it may be in the best interest of
5 the people of Minnesota.

6 Thank you.

7 MS. KRISTIE LAVEAU: Hello. After those
8 really long ones, I got a really short one.

9 My name is Kristie Laveau, K-R-I-S-T-I-E,
10 L-A-V-E-A-U. And I live in Wrenshall.

11 I have lots of concerns about this new
12 pipeline and, of course, you're hearing a lot of
13 them tonight. And we all share the same concerns
14 and fears.

15 I know there's been a change in the route
16 to stay on the main line corridor from Wisconsin to
17 I-35, and that's great for me 'cause that's where I
18 live. However, I don't feel the change is set in
19 stone until the PUC says it is. I have to assume
20 that I'm still under the gun and I still have to
21 deal with the pipeline.

22 With that being said, I'm totally against
23 the entire southern route since it includes my home,
24 many acres of undisturbed land, and runs too close
25 to our very popular Itasca State Park. My land

1 already has a gas line running through it and I feel
2 that your option of being able to use existing
3 right-of-ways is wrong and misleading. You're not
4 using that existing right-of-way. You're taking
5 more land next to it and opening up a wider spot.
6 This would cause me to lose hundreds of mature
7 hardwood trees that help stop the erosion that takes
8 place.

9 We have been able to work with the Soil
10 and Water Conservation group to stop erosion on our
11 place since we are in the Nemadji watershed zone and
12 Lake Superior water basin. Any disturbance to land
13 will make our project worthless.

14 Our great state of 10,000 lakes needs to
15 take a stand and stand behind the people who live
16 here, play here, and enjoy our great outdoors. You
17 can't enjoy nature once it has been dug up, spilled
18 on, or dying. Minnesota needs to understand that we
19 will always be in the path of oil lines crossing the
20 state to get to refineries or ships. We need to
21 make sure that those lines all run together and that
22 we follow the nonproliferation status. The more
23 places you put pipelines, the more places you will
24 have environmental disasters.

25 Thank you.

1 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker card
2 I have is for a Karola Dalen. And after that I have
3 one for Don O'Connor.

4 MS. KAROLA DALEN: Karola Dalen.
5 K-A-R-O-L-A, D-A-L-E-N.

6 My name is Karola and my family resides
7 in Wrenshall Township. We run an organic vegetable
8 farm on 33 acres. This summer will be our tenth
9 season. The farm is our livelihood.

10 The food we grow goes to over 150 local
11 families and we plan to provide more into the
12 future. The farm is thriving.

13 We have two children, ages two and four,
14 who will attend Wrenshall public schools someday.

15 The reason we moved to Carlton County was
16 for the opportunity to farm, the valuable farmland
17 itself, and the supportive community around it. We
18 would like to be here for the rest of our lives.

19 Two young men work for us, one which
20 recently acquired 40 acres across the street from
21 our farm. He and his wife are expecting their first
22 child this summer. They would like to be there for
23 the rest of their lives. There are many more people
24 like us.

25 The food producing farmland in this

1 county is more valuable than I can even fathom to
2 explain in this statement. Food prices will
3 continue to rise as energy prices continue to rise.
4 Our local food producing capabilities are priceless
5 for the future.

6 A pipeline crossing a field interrupts
7 cultivating, cropping, and drainage patterns. Due
8 to extreme soil disturbance and compaction, the area
9 where a pipeline is installed is destroyed from any
10 significant food production. The entire pipeline
11 right-of-way is not farmable. The soil health and
12 vitality is a carefully managed practice of crop
13 rotation, green manures, and added nutrients and
14 minerals and takes years for real improvement. This
15 investment of sustainable soil management is not
16 possible on soil the pipeline company controls.
17 Therefore, it is also destroyed from any significant
18 food production.

19 Keep the pipeline away from organic farms
20 and away from undisturbed farmland in Carlton
21 County. The proposed route should entirely follow
22 existing pipeline corridors. The proposed route
23 along existing power lines would result in a greater
24 impact to farmlands, wetlands, forest lands, and
25 wildlife habitat, compared to utilizing the existing

1 pipeline corridor.

2 This statement is for myself and in
3 support of the Carlton County Land Stewards.
4 Farmlands, forests, and water, if protected and
5 managed correctly, are renewable resources. The oil
6 from North Dakota and other places is temporary.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: And after
9 Mr. O'Connor I have a card for a Randall Hanson,
10 Randy Hanson.

11 MR. DON O'CONNOR: Ready, Janet?

12 COURT REPORTER: Yes.

13 MR. DON O'CONNOR: My name is Don
14 O'Connor, O, apostrophe, C-O-N-N-O-R. I live in
15 Carlton, but I really don't have any skin in the
16 game. The pipeline doesn't affect my property, but
17 I wanted to speak because I've sat here and listened
18 to 26 other people talk about how it does affect
19 them.

20 I just want to talk a little bit about
21 both professionally and personally. Professionally
22 I'm the executive director of the Duluth Builders
23 Exchange. We are a trade association of 400 members
24 in the construction industry. We've got quite a bit
25 of experience with Enbridge Energy. And I would

1 have to say that their safety record of 99.999
2 percent is accurate, and our satisfaction rating
3 among contractors with them is also 99.999 percent.

4 So as I listen to all of you people, I
5 just want to impart a little bit of my experience
6 with them. I have several friends who work for
7 Enbridge, who do a good job for Enbridge, who truly
8 are concerned about being environmentally
9 responsible, socially responsible, and concerned
10 with the impact they do have on the public and
11 private landowners.

12 As I came in, I saw a lot of stickers
13 that say More Cowbells, Less Pipeline. I truly
14 believe that the PUC and Enbridge would like to see
15 more cowbell and more pipeline, and I think with
16 your comments and suggestions tonight, that's a
17 doable process.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. RANDY HANSON: Thank you. My name is
20 Randy Hanson, and I teach about sustainable food
21 systems and natural resources and related courses in
22 the program in environmental sustainability at the
23 University of Minnesota - Duluth.

24 I also started something called the
25 Sustainable Agriculture Project at UMD's field and

1 research study center. And this was in 2009 really
2 to respond to this explosion in interest among young
3 people to figure out a pathway forward to a more
4 sustainable world. Where, you know, we see
5 ourselves sort of stuck between a race for what's
6 left, search for the more dirty, unconventional
7 sources of natural resources, versus looking for
8 livelihoods and ways that we can build for our young
9 people that create a more sustainable future in ways
10 that don't undermine our natural systems.

11 And so I do a lot of work looking at
12 regional food systems, which are really growing
13 faster not only in the western Lake Superior region
14 here, but all around the country as a promising
15 sector for this and a pathway for young people.

16 And, you know, we've had an amazing
17 history of regional food production in earlier
18 times, and there's a sort of renaissance right now
19 happening, an explosion. And it's really exciting
20 to kind of watch these young people sort of catch
21 wind with this sustainable work.

22 And in all of this they look towards
23 Carlton County as the kind of center, because of all
24 the incredible work that's going on. And not just
25 in sustainable organic food systems, but for the

1 kind of broader integration of forestry and land
2 care and land management and responsible
3 stewardship.

4 And, you know, I have a lot -- I wrote
5 down a lot of things to say, but I guess what I
6 really want to say, and skipping all of that, is
7 that, you know, I think what's happening here in
8 Carlton County is an under -- or not really well
9 understood how amazing it is. And it's getting a
10 lot more attention for how to reconstruct
11 communities and how to provide pathways for young
12 people to have livelihoods and live within
13 functioning, healthy communities.

14 And, you know, farmers here and the
15 people who have lived here a long time are not just
16 farmers. I think they're really teachers, they're
17 mentors for a pathway forward in creating a more
18 sustainable world. And I know from personal
19 experience, you know, at least a dozen young people
20 who have interned on these organic farms and then
21 now are in search of ways to create their own farms
22 to respond to the upswing in interest in local
23 organic foods.

24 And so in all of this, you know, this
25 pipeline sort of proposal, coming in on the south

1 route really stands in stark contrast to this
2 amazing renaissance that's happening in Carlton
3 County. And, you know, I really just want to say
4 that the -- that the principle of nonproliferation
5 should be respected and should be given great weight
6 in this process.

7 And I understand that there are
8 challenges in the north route, but Enbridge is a
9 powerful company that can meet challenges. And I
10 think that, you know, it is in the public good to
11 stay in those existing routes and work with
12 landowners in this region as they help build a
13 sustainable pathway to a better future.

14 That's all I want to say. Thank you.

15 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker card
16 I have is for Mark Thell, T-H-E-L-L. After
17 Mr. Thell I have a Mr. Mike Hyland.

18 MR. MARK THELL: Mark, M-A-R-K, Thell,
19 T-H-E-L-L. It's simply hell with a T in front of
20 it, is what my dad would say. I had to throw that
21 in there because it's been a little dry for you guys
22 sitting up there.

23 But I like to tell stories. For my story
24 I would start with this scenario 'cause we've been
25 talking about farming so much. The farmer is

1 plowing his fields and he happens to plow up this
2 bottle and he opens it and, sure enough, the genie
3 pops out. And so the genie gives him this big hug
4 and he says, I've been in this bottle for over 100
5 years, I'm so happy to get out of here. And what he
6 says, I'll grant you any wish, but whatever I give
7 you I want to give to you twice to your neighbor.
8 So the old farmer, he thought and he thought, and he
9 says, well, what am I going to do here? He says,
10 okay, I decided. Take out one of my eyes. Kind of
11 crude, but I think that summarizes a lot of my
12 neighbors out here of what is asked of them to give
13 up their property.

14 We have farmed, we have built lands, and
15 I think there's another solution out here, that the
16 PUC should definitely stop permitting pipelines.
17 You're giving them, granting them unfair
18 competition. We have rail lines. Dan talked about
19 the Soo Line. We can put the tracks back on there,
20 we can haul that oil on that rail. And when that
21 oil is on that rail, my wife has a saying, out of
22 sight, out of mind. The pipelines are buried.
23 That's true. We don't realize what we do in society
24 when we bury something. But when we watch those
25 trains go by, we know exactly what we're doing.

1 We all use oil. The more that we realize
2 what we do to this society, the more sustainability
3 that we can pass on to our children. And what I
4 mean about the commerce clause of that is we are the
5 private landowners that this oil is run through our
6 lines. There's 11 lines on my parents' original
7 farm, that's natural gas, crude oil, and the
8 effluent that goes from Chicago back up to the tar
9 sands through there. There has never been
10 nothing -- on some of those there was a \$50 easement
11 paid to the property owner at that time that went
12 in, about 1950. That's not fair that those lands
13 are giving up the value, and there's no compensation
14 for that, for those existing landowners where those
15 corridors are. They should be compensated and that
16 would create the same advantage.

17 The railroads own their land, they pay
18 taxes. We could put them lines back on the Soo Line
19 and run those rail cars. And from what I
20 understand, those rail cars are made up in Canada,
21 they are not pipes that are made in China, so we
22 would be creating a lot more American jobs by using
23 the rail lines.

24 And I'm very happy with you guys that you
25 have that strong of a safety record, that's

1 impressive, because I understand what happens when
2 the lands start shifting around. So that's kind of
3 where I'm at, is there's a congress behind this and
4 our society needs to look at the bigger issue. We
5 do have issues with oil in our society and we should
6 really look at it as a big picture and not just
7 simply a one-time, put a pipeline in and that'll
8 solve an energy problem, because it just adds more
9 cost to the next generation down that they won't
10 have natural resources to profit from.

11 So thank you.

12 MR. MICHAEL HYLAND: I think I'm last.
13 Am I last?

14 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Six more.

15 MR. MICHAEL HYLAND: I'm going to make
16 this fairly quick. My name is Michael,
17 M-I-C-H-A-E-L, Hyland, H-Y-L-A-N-D.

18 I'm the current mayor of the City of
19 Wrenshall, I've been mayor for 24 years. In that
20 time period I have seen lines, oil lines, gas lines,
21 come through our area.

22 Just in the last six months, we completed
23 a wellhead study, which has to be completed every
24 ten years. It's been submitted to the State Health
25 Department at this time, it was done for rural

1 water. We put extensive research into that. We
2 have two wells in the city of Wrenshall. Our newest
3 well is 517 feet deep, they believe that we're
4 drinking ice age water, some of the best quality
5 water in the country. Our secondary well is 154
6 feet deep and, quite obviously, our secondary well
7 is more susceptible to any kind of spill.

8 Now, I want everybody here to know that I
9 support business. But I also support all these
10 wonderful people behind me that are in our
11 surrounding communities. Our well right now feeds,
12 on any school day, over 1,000 people every day,
13 okay. So that line is in what's called our WSMA,
14 our WSMA is our watershed, okay. And that's where
15 your lines run to the west of us. That could have
16 potential impact. But I would rather see you come
17 through that existing easement where we already have
18 lines than affect all of these people. Because
19 these people feed our city. Without them, we have
20 low economy, we have no school district. Carlton
21 County would lose tax base.

22 So my questions are, in the deals with
23 our fire department we have 28 volunteers. My first
24 question is, closest hazmat team to get to an
25 existing fire and/or spill, where is it?

1 MR. JOHN PECHIN: I'll just speak up loud
2 enough. John Pechin. It would be Superior.

3 MR. MICHAEL HYLAND: Okay. And response
4 time?

5 MR. JOHN PECHIN: I'll say an hour before
6 the first man gets here.

7 MR. MICHAEL HYLAND: About an hour. So
8 based upon the 360,000 gallons per day, okay.

9 MR. JOHN PECHIN: Barrels.

10 MR. MICHAEL HYLAND: Or barrels, okay,
11 we'd lose about 30, 40,000 gallons on the ground in
12 an hour. Not counting setup time, et cetera,
13 probably a couple hours.

14 MR. ART HASKINS: My name is Art Haskins,
15 I'm the emergency response coordinator.

16 That's not correct. You don't have to
17 wait for a hazmat team to be able to respond.
18 Regular firefighters, law enforcement, and ambulance
19 are all -- can take the training, it's the DOT
20 guidebook that in isolated areas are well published,
21 and that training is available online for free, as
22 well as our company response and our contractor
23 response. So we would not have to wait for the
24 hazmat team. And the lines themselves can be
25 remotely closed, the block valves, to limit the

1 release amount. So it's not dependent on the
2 arrival of the hazmat team to control that.

3 MR. MICHAEL HYLAND: Okay. How about the
4 equipment to stop the spread of oil?

5 MR. ART HASKINS: Once again, our
6 company, Enbridge, we own the majority of the
7 equipment that would be used to control the spread
8 of oil, as well as to start the recovery process.
9 Along with our contractors, our oil spill recovery
10 organizations that we work with, those would be the
11 equipment that would be used to control as well as
12 recover the product.

13 MR. MICHAEL HYLAND: Okay. My follow-up
14 question is, there have been online sessions, okay,
15 which our firemen have taken and reported, you know,
16 followed through with. But have there been actual
17 hands-on meetings with Cloquet Fire Department,
18 Esko, Wrenshall, Blackhoof? Our fire department
19 personally, we cover from Wrenshall to Wisconsin
20 border, west to 103, south as far as Holyoke and
21 Clear Creek. A huge fire area. I've just -- I
22 would love to see more hands-on training, okay.

23 And eventually something is going to
24 happen. We don't have these meetings and we get all
25 these people up in arms, okay. And I'm saying if

you're going to use a route, do what Mark said, rail it, use the Soo Line, or use the existing, okay. Because right now you have a lot of people up in arms, which I think is highly unnecessary and wrong.

But I do support business. That's what makes us tick.

Thank you.

MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Our court reporter needs a break. So, Janet, how much time do you need?

COURT REPORTER: Ten minutes.

MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Ten minutes. So at Janet's direction we will reconvene in ten minutes. And I have, I believe, five speaker cards left.

(Break taken from 9:26 to 9:39.)

MR. LARRY HARTMAN: We would like to reconvene. The next speaker card I have is for a, excuse me, Rita Vavrosky. Did I pronounce that correctly?

MS. RITA VAVROSKY: Do I hold this?

MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Only if you want to.

MS. RITA VAVROSKY: Can you hear me okay?

My name is Rita Vavrosky, that's spelled V, as in victory, A, another V, R-O-S-K-Y.

According to the numbers reported in the

1 route application filed by North Dakota Pipeline
2 Company, a large percentage, some 75 percent of the
3 land on the revised preferred route is privately
4 owned by people, by citizens of Minnesota. I don't
5 know all their stories, but you can be sure they
6 each have one. We've heard several of them tonight.
7 You get to hear another one. You're going to hear a
8 lot of bedtime stories tonight. I'm going to be
9 here as a representative of those stories, telling
10 you the story of Spectrum Farm.

11 Nearly two decades ago, my husband Steve
12 and I sat on a couch in a house in North Minneapolis
13 talking about how we wanted to do our part to change
14 the world. That conversation ended in a decision to
15 leave the city, to live a sustainable life and begin
16 a long chapter we are living right now called
17 Spectrum Farm.

18 For five years, we researched and
19 learned, we attended seminars and read voraciously,
20 we studied renewable energy and pressure canning and
21 building techniques. We learned all we could about
22 growing food and caring for animals as we began our
23 search for land.

24 Over time, we determined a strict set of
25 criteria for our little piece of the earth. We

1 needed the appropriate setup for renewable energy,
2 microhydro, or wind or solar. Not oil. We needed
3 pasture and garden land as well as forest land for
4 maple sap and furnace fuel. We refused to either
5 look at any piece of land that was on or near a
6 transformer station, a high-voltage power line, or a
7 pipeline.

8 After five years and three moves, we came
9 to where we are now in the middle of Carlton County.
10 We had looked at more than 300 pieces of land and we
11 believe we found the most perfect one for our
12 vision. During that search, we honed our mission
13 statement, which is to produce good things for
14 people in a way that doesn't destroy the natural
15 ecological balance, and then to share those things.
16 It worked. That process of deliberate
17 decision-making worked.

18 For the past 12 years, Steve and I, with
19 our six children learning and working by our side,
20 has made that mission happen. Our solar panels now
21 produce all the energy our farm requires and the
22 excess goes to our neighbors. The orchard we
23 started as soon as we moved in is now bearing
24 wonderful apples. Our garden provides much of the
25 food that we eat. We raise chickens and cows, pigs

1 and sheep, we make hay. When our pantry is full we
2 sell the extra to folks who value local, sustainably
3 raised food. Sometimes it's the neighbor next door
4 with whom we trade beans or tomatoes. Throughout
5 the summer we take things to the Mahtowa farmers
6 market to sell and trade. We have a pleasantly long
7 list of regular buyers for our custom-cut pork, our
8 eggs, and our hay. You may have seen our eggs at
9 the Whole Foods Co-op or watched us hand-milk our
10 cows at the Carlton County Fair.

11 People visit our farm all the time. They
12 come from the city to see animals up close and to
13 try milking a cow. They come to help throw hay
14 bales or stack wood. They build fences, press
15 cider, and extract honey. People come to tour the
16 farm to learn how to can, to talk about the
17 philosophy of sustainability.

18 They drive up the driveway just to ask
19 about the alpacas and the solar panels. We've had
20 workers from Germany, France, and China, as well as
21 many places in the U.S.A. That is all part of our
22 sharing mission.

23 In the spring, this week, Steve will tap
24 the maple trees. We happen to have a bit of a
25 disagreement about just how many taps he gets to put

1 in, but now that our syrup is certified organic, I
2 guess he gets to tap as many trees as he wants to.
3 First he determines who is eligible that year. The
4 trees can't be too young or too old. If they've
5 sustained an injury or just look like they need a
6 year off, they get the time they need to become
7 strong again. Our lives are governed by the sap
8 runs as we gather the sap and bring it back on
9 sleds, pulled by ponies. Around the fire we boil
10 and boil and boil that sap until it becomes syrup.
11 It's a couple of weeks of bonfire parties with
12 visitors coming and going and lots of sticky treats.

13 The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
14 has in front of it at this time a proposal to route
15 a crude oil pipeline through the Spectrum Farm
16 forest. If it is approved, Enbridge Energy will
17 hire contractors to cut down a 120-foot swath of
18 oak, maple, aspen, birch, spruce and pine trees.
19 Fifty of those feet will be predominately trailed,
20 the other 70 feet will be allowed to grow again, for
21 the moment at least.

22 But a maple tree has to be 45 years old
23 before we can tap it. That means that even if we
24 get out there and plant seedlings that next spring,
25 and even if the pipeline company doesn't come back

1 in five years to run another pipeline, or next year
2 with line 3, I won't live long enough to tap those
3 trees.

4 Other landowners along this route have
5 made careful decisions too. Some value their land
6 for hunting and recreation. My neighbors, they
7 resent being told how their land will be managed.
8 Some watch the birds and other wildlife and fear for
9 the safety of the species they strive to protect.
10 Most of us care about water quality and understand
11 the delicate relationship between the land and the
12 water. Each steward of the land has reasons why --

13 MS. TRACY SMETANA: Five minutes.

14 MS. RITA VAVROSKY: Can I wrap up
15 quickly?

16 Of why a petroleum pipeline is
17 incompatible with his or her land.

18 So please, PUC, protect the interests of
19 the people on the land, not the bottom lines of the
20 corporations masquerading as people.

21 Insist upon considerate interactions
22 between all applicants, including their contracted
23 employees, with landowners and penalize the
24 applicants who disregard this important step. And
25 if significant local public, not corporate need is

1 found for this or any new pipeline to cross our
2 state, please locate them all together in the
3 corridor that already exists.

4 Thank you very much.

5 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker card
6 I have is for Eric, is it Fosland? Forland. After
7 that I have a card for Carol Anderson.

8 MR. ERIC FORLAND: Thank you, guys, for
9 sitting through this long day, and I guess you're
10 probably getting tired of this.

11 My name is Eric Forland, F-O-R-L-A-N-D.
12 I live out in the western half of Carlton County,
13 pretty close to the border there.

14 My property will be directly affected by
15 the southern project, the southern route of this
16 project in the following ways. The current proposal
17 would have the route run directly through the center
18 of my property from the east to the west. The pipe
19 would be located approximately 200 feet from my
20 house. The pipe would run through a family gravel
21 pit on the eastern edge of the property. We use
22 this gravel pit, my family has used this gravel pit
23 for as long as we've owned the property, to improve
24 our property. We try to use the materials from this
25 gravel pit any time we do any improvements on the

1 property to try and eliminate any foreign materials
2 coming in or off of the property. This pipeline
3 will cross the west branch of the Kettle River and
4 an unnamed stream that's basically a drainage
5 tributary for one of the bogs out behind our
6 property. The route takes the pipeline through --
7 currently through our hayfields and our pastures.
8 It crosses fences and livestock facilities as it
9 does that.

10 In addition to the directly affected
11 aspects of this pipeline, the pipeline would have
12 the -- would also affect our farm in the following
13 areas. We have been operating a small, nonprofit
14 organization named Homeland Ranch for the past few
15 years. We have been using horses in a mentorship
16 and teaching role to provide a safe and creative
17 place for people to work on the struggles in their
18 lives. We've been working towards the goal of
19 developing an alternative treatment environment to
20 those struggling with dependency and behavioral
21 issues. In general, this program will be
22 incorporating equine-assisted therapy, or EAP, with
23 the hands-on skills of running an organic,
24 self-sustaining farm. Our long-term goal is to
25 provide essential housing and transportation

1 assistance for those with more in-depth needs.

2 The proposed pipeline project would
3 affect our ability to obtain or maintain our organic
4 certification, which we're hoping to have in place
5 this year. This farm has been in the family for the
6 last 40 years and was a dairy farm for the first 20
7 years. This is where I was born and raised. I
8 purchased the farm from my dad in '97 when I was in
9 the service, so it's where I grew up, it's where I
10 live.

11 I consider the land that we farm as being
12 prime farmland. And as it would be defined by the
13 Code of Federal Regulations 1980, title 7, section
14 657.5. You know, the code that basically generally
15 defines prime farmland. As I read through the
16 paragraphs of that section, it fits our land pretty
17 specifically.

18 If we weren't able to complete the
19 organic certification for the farmland, it would put
20 our -- the products that we market and grow through
21 our greenhouses and the land would have a pretty
22 steep disadvantage. This route would also limit the
23 future plans that we'd have for the buildings -- or
24 for the property that would include but not be
25 limited to the building of greenhouses, the planting

1 of trees, to building permanent livestock
2 facilities. It would also limit our ability to plan
3 our housing and cultural areas and the use of heat
4 pump ground loops in this area.

5 This pipeline -- the pipeline would
6 decrease property values, obviously, everybody has
7 been talking about that so we're all very familiar
8 with that. My family and guests would also be,
9 because of the close proximity of the line, would be
10 exposed to the well-documented risk associated with
11 living in close proximity to this pipeline.

12 North Dakota Pipeline Company hasn't
13 given us any guarantee that there will never be a
14 faultage, and that's been talked about tonight as
15 well. This leads the landowners to assume the
16 immediate risks. I was a little bit taken aback by
17 the response given as far as emergency response. I
18 guess I had assumed, up until tonight, that there
19 would be a quicker response or more timely response
20 in emergencies. And we're on the eastern half of
21 the county, so an hour to respond to here, in my
22 mind, it seems like two hours to respond to me out
23 on the western half. That's a little bit alarming
24 to me, in addition to everything else.

25 In general, I'm asking that the PUC deny

1 the proposed southern route and keep the existing
2 route of the corridor that's already used. The
3 establishment of multiple pipelines running through
4 this current corridor shows the northern route is a
5 feasible and prudent alternative to the proposed
6 southern route.

7 From Enbridge's website, their plans to
8 upgrade the lines that exist on this route already
9 on the northern route would be in keeping with the
10 following statutes, as well as protecting the --

11 MS. TRACY SMETANA: It's five minutes.

12 MR. ERIC FORLAND: Well, thank you for
13 your time. The statute that I wanted to bring up in
14 keeping with was the National Environmental
15 Protection Act, 1968, 42, which prohibits the taking
16 of additional farmland if there's a prudent
17 alternative, and I believe that the northern route
18 is a prudent alternative to the southern route.

19 Thank you.

20 MS. CAROL ANDERSON: My name is Carol
21 Anderson, C-A-R-O-L, A-N-D-E-R-S-O-N.

22 Forty years ago my husband convinced me
23 to live in the country. I was not going to live in
24 the country by any means. However, once we moved
25 out here, you cannot get me back into town. We have

1 80 acres in Wrenshall. There are all kinds of
2 animals, birds, a variety of trees on our property.
3 The 40 acres north of County Road 4, we have five
4 pipelines going through it right now. If Enbridge
5 comes through this will be number six. What can you
6 do with 40 acres with six pipelines on it?

7 I talked to the county assessor one time
8 and I said how could I sell this property? He said
9 somebody would put a hunting shack on it. I said
10 would you? He said no. My husband planted over
11 1,000 trees on those same 40 acres. One of the
12 pipelines came through and cut down every single
13 tree. Those of you who have planted trees know that
14 you do not plant trees for yourself, you plant them
15 for future generations, which I get told all the
16 time.

17 So I'm hoping that we do not -- you do
18 not allow this pipeline to go through. I do not
19 want another pipeline going through my property
20 which will eventually belong to my children and my
21 grandchildren.

22 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: The next speaker card
23 I have is Phyllis Lehti, if I pronounced it
24 correctly.

25 MS. PHYLLIS LEHTI: Pretty close. Pretty

1 close.

2 My name is Phyllis Lehti and I live on
3 County Road 4 in Eagle Township. P-H-Y-L-L-I-S,
4 Lehti, L-E-H-T-I. I'm one of the lucky people
5 because it doesn't come onto our land, it's across
6 the road. Believe me, we don't feel safe.

7 I don't know if you guys have ever made
8 hay, but when you're making hay you just stick with
9 the job until it's all done. It's kind of like
10 making hay tonight.

11 I've been a dairy farmer up here in the
12 days when a dairy farm was a little more predominant
13 than it is now. My husband and I have had a couple
14 cows we milked by hand, and in later years some beef
15 cattle. But mostly what you're seeing here is a
16 real picture of what Minnesota is like up here.
17 There's Minnesota nice, and these people, all of us,
18 we will ask you to our table, we will give you
19 coffee, we will say is there anything we can get
20 you? But don't trifle, don't ever condescend or
21 assume that these people don't have a backbone
22 because, boy, they do.

23 Well, anyway, I grew up on number 4.
24 When you grow up on a farm it's different than
25 farming it yourself. When you farm yourself you

1 learn to love things like soil, like these people
2 have been telling you. The place where I live, we
3 have 120 acres. Twenty acres of it is not usable
4 because in 1962 a company came through and said, you
5 know what, we need your gravel, and we'll put
6 everything back just like it was. We haven't been
7 able to use the land since because they didn't.
8 They weren't a big Enbridge entity, but that's when
9 I learned to be real careful with who you deal with.

10 The Kettle River crosses number 4 just
11 down the road. Swam in there as a kid, there was
12 some fish in there. There are still some turtles.
13 And most of the local people say it hasn't been the
14 same since the peat plant started dumping their
15 effluence into Kettle Lake, which goes into Kettle
16 River. The Kettle River goes into the St. Croix
17 River which goes into the Mississippi River. In
18 1965 the Kettle was designated by LBJ as a wild and
19 scenic river, and I thought it would be safe.

20 My 16-year-old nephew said to me tonight,
21 but Phyllis, if they put a pipeline under the river,
22 what if it leaks? And he said, but Phyllis, if that
23 pipeline goes to Superior, it's going to go under
24 some more rivers. And I said, yeah. And I think
25 about my neighbor about five miles west of the

1 Mahtowa and its designated trout stream, well,
2 that's something there too. And, you know what, it
3 doesn't affect me, but it affects my neighborhood,
4 it affects all these people that live up here.

5 And, you know, I think I try to trust
6 you, we all need oil. And then I hear about this
7 Kalamazoo thing. And I say, well, what I would say,
8 basically, is, you know, these people can be
9 Minnesota nice, but like Dan Reed said, if there's
10 nobody to monitor it, man, that oil comes out so
11 fast. 375 million barrels per day -- thousand,
12 excuse me. It translates to big numbers. Nobody to
13 monitor it.

14 I would just say whatever you do in
15 Minnesota you might be wiser to go with your routes
16 that are already there than try to take on some more
17 of this stuff. Don't trifle with these people
18 'cause this ain't Kalamazoo.

19 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: That was the last
20 speaker card that I had. In closing, I guess I'd
21 like to do two things. I see a young gentleman over
22 there with a necktie on and a blue shirt. Would you
23 like to say anything or ask a question of anyone?

24 UNIDENTIFIED: Are you talking to me?

25 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Well, you're kind of

1 listening, maybe you have an opinion you'd like to
2 share? You don't have to. I just thought if you
3 wanted to I'd give you the opportunity. So why
4 don't you think about it, perhaps, while I wrap up a
5 few things.

6 Michael, did you want to say anything?
7 Keep it brief. Thank you for your patience.

8 MR. MICHAEL DAHL: Thank you for yours.
9 (Speaking in Ojibwe.)

10 These guys are pretty damn close to
11 understanding that after seven meetings with them.

12 Okay. We've gotten -- you know, we've
13 gotten to the point over the last week and a half
14 that I believe we have sincere smiles, and nice to
15 see each other, that we make it home safely.
16 Because over the last week and a half, a couple
17 different things that I want to say.

18 What I was saying there is this is kind
19 of a bittersweet closing of this tour for me because
20 this is where I riced for the very first time, was
21 just right over here. My brother took me out, Tom
22 Hawes. Maybe some of you recognize his name,
23 director of DNR here in Fond du Lac. That's my
24 brother. And he took me out ricing for the very
25 first time right over here just a few years ago.

1 Over the last week here, listening to
2 everybody, the highlight that I see as the
3 commonality between both indigenous and
4 nonindigenous people of these areas, we're concerned
5 about the land, the soil, the farming, the
6 environment, the organic, which we've done for
7 thousands of years. We've always been organic. And
8 now the title comes along, and it's nice to have
9 that shared interest.

10 The endangered species, some of which,
11 there again, in talking to Lorraine over the last
12 week and a half, the goal has been achieved. I
13 learned. And informative question-and-answer
14 sessions and I learned. It hasn't changed my
15 opinion, but I learned.

16 Some of the things that I'd like to ask
17 of the PUC on record again is changing the length of
18 time. This is not enough time to make comments, to
19 understand. The young lady that stood up that said
20 I didn't know, I didn't know about Enbridge until I
21 got a letter.

22 The people in Park Rapids that are
23 snowbirds, we heard that the other day, so many of
24 them have left in November, the announcement comes
25 December, PUC decision January 31st, comment period

1 closes April 4th. Those people will not be back to
2 comment on their own and really be able to
3 understand and be a part of these community
4 meetings. Extending this comment period and making
5 more access, accessibility for the common people.
6 Adding more places. You know, you saw, we got to
7 Park Rapids. As I said, Park Rapids is closer to
8 our reserve, White Earth Reserve, more people came
9 out. Some of the White Earth people came to East
10 Lake, or McGregor, because that is the original
11 place of my family. That's why I went to McGregor
12 as well. That's where my family originated, from
13 Sandy Lake and Gull Lake Reserve area, East Lake.

14 The time is an issue. The time is an
15 issue, I understand the tour and everything of the
16 sort, but as I noted, the evening sessions are by
17 far more well attended. 11:00 to 2:00 in the
18 afternoon, we saw where some people came during
19 their lunch break but had to leave. Larry, we saw
20 that in Park Rapids. People had to leave because
21 they had appointments, they had things to do. Maybe
22 they had children to pick up. Even Tracy felt that
23 when she had to skip, had to miss one meeting. And
24 I've got to give credit where credit is due, Tracy
25 left one meeting because her daughter had a band

1 concert last week. This is how much time we spent
2 together.

3 MS. TRACY SMETANA: That's true.

4 MR. MICHAEL DAHL: The questions on the
5 request that I have after hearing all of this is I
6 really feel that the community along the whole route
7 has repeatedly demanded and asked for a real, true
8 environmental impact statement. A full one. Not a
9 comparative analysis, but an environmental impact
10 statement to really research all these endangered
11 species, all these things along the route, to look
12 at these things.

13 The lady in McGregor today said we have
14 to pass all these tests within our county before we
15 can even put our septic tank in and that's not
16 biohazard. That's just plain old crap. That
17 will -- you know, it's not going to bother us. We
18 can't put our septic system through in a wetland.
19 If we have a bog in our back yard that we purchased
20 we can't put a septic there. Why would we consider
21 putting a pipeline through that?

22 The name change, as we've noted, is a
23 real confusing thing for people.

24 MS. TRACY SMETANA: That's your five
25 minutes.

1 MR. MICHAEL DAHL: Okay. Name change,
2 Enbridge, maybe start putting them together so
3 people understand it is the same entity.

4 Double walling, casing of the pipes.

5 It was brought to my attention, Mike,
6 unless you rode a horse here. You know, I did. I
7 rode from Superior, Wisconsin all the way to Grand
8 Forks -- or to Leonard, to Clearbrook, on my horse
9 last fall. I rode through Wrenshall. I rode
10 through Carlton County. I rode to Fond Du Lac
11 Reserve. I rode my horse along the Alberta Clipper
12 line. And I don't know if you guys know, I don't
13 know the road numbers, but there's a road right here
14 outside of Wrenshall where I saw exposed pipe. I
15 have a picture of one of my dear friends sitting on
16 exposed pipe. Those valleys there. I'm concerned,
17 I don't know what that is. But these are things
18 that I'm bringing to your attention that you have
19 exposed pipe in your back yard already.

20 Do what you do, keep doing what you do.
21 Thank you very much for standing up and reiterating
22 what we've heard. This isn't a new argument, but
23 thank you, 'cause you've strengthened the arguments
24 of all those that were stating things for the last
25 week and a half and will continue until April 4th

1 and hopefully beyond that.

2 I do thank you guys for listening to us.
3 It hasn't been easy to be the brunt of our arguments
4 for a week and a half, to be called names and all
5 those things.

6 Janet. You've got to give her a round of
7 applause, you know.

8 And all you guys. I really mean that. I
9 really mean that. Thank you for putting up,
10 especially with me, for a week and a half. I know
11 I'm not easy. I thank you's all, I love you's all,
12 and hopefully we can come to a conclusion that is
13 the best for our generations to come. Miigwech.

14 MR. LARRY HARTMAN: Thank you. Has the
15 young gentleman reconsidered? Or is he sleeping?
16 Well, I'm tired too.

17 I'd like to thank all of you for
18 attending and taking time out of your schedule, it's
19 been very helpful for us. So if you have any
20 questions I'd encourage you to please contact me
21 either by mail, by phone, by e-mail if you have any
22 questions. And Casey Nelson, who I mentioned, her
23 phone number is available out there. I have
24 business cards out there, please feel free to
25 contact us at your convenience and we'll provide

1 whatever assistance we can.

2 Casey is right there.

3 So travel safe and be well and no
4 drinking and driving. Thank you.

5 (Meeting concluded at 10:06 p.m.)

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